

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE

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North-China Daily News.

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SHANGHAI, FRIDAY,
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JAPAN AND MANCHURIA.

In spite of the contention that the alleged British recognition of the validity of Japan's protest against the Fakumen railway will entail the cancelling of the scheme, the question is of sufficient importance in its bearing upon the general position in Manchuria to call for a recapitulation of the facts and the arguments on both sides of the case. By the Treaty of Portsmouth (September 1905) Japan acquired from Russia the latter's rights over the Manchurian Railway to the South of Kuan-chengtzé, and in the Convention subsequently made (December 17) between Baron Komura and the Chinese Government China tacitly recognized Japan's reversionary railway rights in South Manchuria. Moreover, in addition to the published Convention, it appears that certain supplementary Articles were agreed to, formally recorded, and exchanged in the form of official minutes, during the course of the negotiations—Articles which, the Japanese aver, were withheld from publication at the request of the Chinese Plenipotentiaries. By one of these supplementary clauses, China undertook, for "the protection of the interests of the South Manchuria Railway," not to construct any main line in the neighbourhood of that Railway and parallel thereto, or any branch line prejudicial to its interests. It is upon the strength of this prohibitory clause that the Japanese Government objects to the present proposal of the Chinese to extend their Northern Railway system northwards from Hsinmintun to Fakumen, and has intimated its intention of preventing the work by forcible measures, if necessary.

In the meanwhile the Government of Manchuria has entered into preliminary agreements with British railway contractors and capitalists for the construction and financing of the proposed fifty-mile section to Fakumen. The position is, therefore, one of peculiar interest and delicacy.

Now, to expect any nation, after a victorious war, to practise self-denial at the expense of its more immediate interests, is to credit humanity in the mass with a form of altruism hitherto unassociated with politics. National policies are guided by expediency and opportunity, rather than by conscientious scruples. In determining Japan's line of action, and whatever assurances she may have given to the world before and during the late war, we are justified in assuming that her interpretation of equal opportunities and the open door in South Manchuria will continue to be dictated more by her own necessities and opportunities than by appreciation of our self-denying ordinance or Treaties. The supplementary clause of the Manchurian Convention to which we have referred is, in effect, a specific repudiation of the open door; it establishes for Japan in that region a sphere of political and economic influence as exclusive as that which Russia exercised prior to 1904. The avowed object of the clause is to protect the economic interests of the Japanese railway: its real object, however, is evidently political and strategical, and its self-evident importance from this standpoint is sufficient to eliminate such minor considerations as recognition of China's sovereignty or the treaty rights of other nations. And in this instance the tortuous methods of Chinese diplomacy have defeated their own ends, for there is no denying that the Japanese have good cause for complaint, in that China's proposal to extend the Northern Railways should not have been discussed, in the first place, if only as a matter of neighbourly courtesy and precaution, with the Japanese Government. Had this been done, China would at least have avoided

the humiliation of being told that the work of construction would be forcibly prevented. The Chinese side of the case, so far as it can be ascertained from unofficial sources and the Press, denies that the proposed extension of the Northern Railways comes within the terms of the agreement of 1905; first, because that agreement was never intended to be applicable west of the Liao River, and secondly, because the extension, opening up a country at present without means of communication, cannot reasonably be held to compete with the South Manchurian line. Looked at from the standpoint of equity and due recognition of China's sovereignty in this region, there is much to be said for this argument. The Imperial Railways of North China were in existence before the Japanese acquired, by conquest, their rights over the Manchurian line, and if either can be said to compete, it must, therefore, be the latter. Maintenance of Japan's prohibition means that not only in her sphere of influence, but throughout an undefined extent of Chinese territory to the westward, China is debarred from developing her resources for her own benefit and can do so only under Japanese auspices and control,—a return, in fact, to the conditions formerly imposed by Russia, which brought about first the "open door," *entente* between the Great Powers, later, the alliance between Great Britain and Japan, and finally, the war which was to restore China's unimpaired sovereignty throughout this region.

For practical purposes, and ignoring the strategical aspects of the case, the immediate question appears to be, will the Hsinmintun-Fakumen line injuriously affect traffic on the South Manchurian Railway; that is to say, will it take from that Railway freight which it now handles? The difficulty of proving a negative statement is recognized by logicians, but all the weight of evidence is in favour of the Chinese contention, namely, that the new line will tap a populous and fertile country without present outlet and separated from the Man-

churian system by a natural boundary, the Liao River. We are unable to sympathize with the views of those Tokio journalists, Japanese and British, who maintain that Japan has already erred on the side of benevolence, "subjecting herself to severe Chinese competition", by "handing over" the Hsinmintun-Mukden line, for Chinese, not Japanese, interests are still theoretically paramount in China. We concur rather in the view that the large existing cart traffic between Fakumen and Hsinmintun is entitled to railway facilities and that these may legitimately be provided without detriment to the Manchurian Railway. The Japanese claim, on the other hand, would appear to condemn the people of that region either to convey themselves and their goods by cart in perpetuity or until such time as railways are built for them by Japan. There remains the British point of view. Broadly speaking, from that point of view, no Convention between China and Japan can override the central fact that the first object of the Anglo-Japanese alliance was the open door. On the other hand, feelings of friendship and loyalty to our Ally must lead us to recognize the strategic necessities of the situation. That recognition would be spontaneous, had not these necessities frequently been used, since the "evacuation," as leverage for a policy of commercial exclusiveness, which has created general uneasiness. Nor must it be forgotten that the Imperial Railways of North China are an undertaking with which British capital and engineering are closely identified; it is no new field, but a very legitimate object, for our activities, a fact on which the British Government laid no small stress when Russia (on political grounds) opposed the extension to Hsinmintun in 1899, and later, during the Boxer troubles, when our vested interests saved the line for the Chinese. We are, therefore, beset with conflicting sympathies. Hostile criticism of our Allies were an ungrateful task; equally unpleasant the necessity for acquiescence in political ambitions which, once accepted, must inevitably lead to partition of the Chinese Empire. We trust that the policy of equal opportunities will yet be maintained. The true interests of Japan, as well as of Great Britain, all lie in this direction, and we are confident that the Government at Tokio realizes that Japan has everything to gain and nothing to lose by steadily maintaining the avowed object of the Alliance—the integrity of China.

THE WEEK'S MAILS

THIS week's "North China Herald" is dispatched to Europe per N.D.L.S. Kleist leaving Shanghai on Sunday, February 23, at 5 p.m.

The German mail of January 14 arrived here on Saturday, the 15th instant, per N.-D. L. S. Gorben.

The French mail of January 19 arrived here on Thursday, the 20th instant, per M. M. S. Tonkin.

The mail from London via Siberia of January 30 arrived here on Wednesday morning, the 19th instant.

The American mail dated San Francisco January 21, ex O. and O. S. Asia, arrived here on Monday, the 17th instant, per N.Y.K.S. Chikugo Maru.

The American mail dated Tacoma (Wash.) January 22, ex str. Cyclops, arrived here on Monday, the 17th instant, per N.Y.K.S. Chikugo Maru.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE

"North-China Daily News" Service.

FRENCH STEAMER MISSING.

Tokio, February 14.

The French steamer Charles Tiberghien carrying materials for the South Manchuria railway from New York was recently reported to be missing. It is now asserted that she has sunk near the Island of Hainan.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

•• The Charles Tiberghien, steel screw steamer of 4,983 tons, was built at Rouen in 1900 and registered at Dunkirk. She was owned by the French firm of C. Tiberghien et Fils.—*Ed.*

UNHAPPY FINLAND.

London, February 17.

General Bekmano, notorious for the ruthless methods that he adopted in suppressing the last rising in the Baltic Provinces, has been appointed Governor-General of Finland.—*Exclusive Service.*

THE UNITED STATES.

New York, February 14.

The Harriman railways pay their regular quarterly dividend.

RUMOURS OF WAR.

Referring to Japan's attitude towards the Hsinmintun-Fakumen railway "The New York Sun" compares the Japanese prohibition

with Count Lamsdorff's ante-bellum policy in Manchuria.

A Paris rumour that a war is imminent has hurried Wall Street.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

A FURTHER FAILURE.

London via Bombay, February 17.

A telegram from New York states that Mr. Morse, the organizer of the so-called Morse chain of Banks, the failures of which precipitated the recent panic, has been arrested on the charge of larceny and admitted to bail in a sum of \$20,000.

Receivers have been appointed to the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Company on the ground of insolvency. It is stated that the Company's liabilities are \$5,500,000 and its assets \$3,750,000.—*Reuter.*

BANK MAGNATE

ARRESTED.

New York, February 18.

Mr. Morse, the organizer of the so-called Morse chain of Banks, has come back to New York, and has been arrested on charges of perjury, fraud and larceny. He pleads not guilty.

THE STATE OF THE NAVY.

An Admiral, with whom I have had some conversation, makes an absolute refutation of the criticisms passed by "McClure's Magazine" on the structure of American battleships.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

STRIKING DECREASE IN IMMIGRATION.

New York, February 19.

Mr. O. S. Strauss, Secretary of Commerce and Labour, has reported at a meeting of the Cabinet that Japanese immigrants into the United States during January of the current year numbered 971, as compared with 5,000 in the same month a year ago.

THE CALL FOR

MR. ROOSEVELT.

All the Western States are demanding, since the last Message to Congress, that Mr. Roosevelt shall stand again for the Presidency.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

MANCHURIA.

THE BEANCAKE INDUSTRY.

Tokio, February 17.

Over 300 employees in the bean-cake factories of Tieling struck work, but their grievances have been adjusted by the offices of the prefect.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

A BATCH OF BANKRUPTCIES.

Tokio, February 19.

Over fifty big and small shops have failed at Tiehling.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISE.

The South Manchuria Railway has inaugurated a land and sea connexion between Kuangchengtze and Chefoo.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

INDIAN FRONTIER EXPEDITION.

London via Bombay, February 17.

The expedition against the Zakka Khels has entered the Bazar Valley. Its pickets engaged the tribesmen, and surprised them in their strongest position.—*Reuter.*

WESTERN CHINA.

NAVIGATION ON THE UPPER YANGTZE.

London, February 14.

The Earl of Ronaldshay, M.P., (Hornsey, Middlesex) in the course of a lecture before the Central Asian Society on "the commerce and communications of Western China" declared that steam navigation on the Upper Yangtze was chimerical. Chinese nationalism, he added, was at present hampering railway construction. He suggested the construction of a light railway from Bhamo to Talifu.—*Exclusive Service.*

ASIATIC IMMIGRATION.

THE NEW LAW IN VOGUE.

London via Bombay, February 17.

Two Japanese who arrived at Victoria, British Columbia, from the United States, were refused admission; but as they insisted on landing, they were arrested.—*Reuter.*

JAPANESE COMPLAINT AT OTTAWA.

London via Bombay, February 18.

The Japanese Vice-Consul at Ottawa has interviewed the Secretary of State with reference to the arrest of the two Japanese who, as reported yesterday, had insisted on landing in Victoria, British Columbia from the United States.

The Department of Justice for British Columbia has been instructed to take proceedings of *habeas corpus* and to preserve the treaty rights of Japan.—*Reuter.*

A HEAVY SENTENCE.

London via Bombay, February 19.

Telegrams from Victoria, British Columbia, state that the two Japan-

ese who insisted on entering the country from the United States have been sentenced to pay a fine of \$500, and to a year's imprisonment, with the option of release if they will leave the country.

Proceedings of *habeas corpus* have been instituted.—*Reuter.*

RIOTS IN BOMBAY.

A MOHAMMEDAN FRACAS.

London via Bombay, February 14.

Disputes between the Sunni and the Shiah Mohammedans of Bombay have led to a riot in which five men were killed and forty injured. The police intervened, but were attacked and fired on the mob.—*Reuter.*

THE CHIENTAO QUESTION.

ORGANIZATION OF MILITARY DEFENCE

Tokio, February 18.

Information from Mukden states that a telegram has been received from the Tuchiipu, Ministry of Finance, at Peking authorizing the proposal of Viceroy Hsu Shih-chang of Manchuria to allocate Tls. 600,000 for the military defence of Chientao.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

THE COST OF KIAOCHOU.

GERMAN INFLUENCE IN CHINA.

London via Bombay, February 14.

At the meeting of the Budget Committee of the Reichstag, the Government, in replying to the Committee's complaint of the cost of the garrison of Kiaochou, declared that no reduction was possible. Kiaochou was of great value for the dissemination of German influence in China, and its abandonment would be regarded as a sign of weakness.—*Reuter.*

February 15.

The Budget Committee of the Reichstag has refused to vote 375,000 marks for the establishment of a University for Chinese students at Kiaochou. It has granted only 50,000 marks for preliminary expenses. The Government pleaded in vain the necessity of such an institution for the spread of the German language and of German influence.

The Committee further rejected altogether the allocation of 120,000 marks for the support of the silk industry, while the votes for the personal expenses of officials were cut down to a considerable extent.—*Reuter.*

FRENCH NAVAL ACCIDENT.

London, February 18.

A boiler explosion took place on board the French cruiser *Descartes* off the coast of Morocco. Three men were killed and three were injured.—*Exclusive Service.*

ENGLISH FIRMS IN JAPAN.

THE VICKERS MAXIM ARMSTRONG WORKS.

London via Bombay, February 14.

The firm of Messrs. Vickers Maxim is issuing debentures to the extent of £1,000,000 in order to carry out its arrangement in connexion with Messrs. Armstrong's to establish works in Japan for the manufacture of ordnance and other products.—*Reuter.*

TURKISH MOBILIZATION.

A STRONG NUCLEUS.

London, February 19.

The Russian newspapers publish from the Caucasus detailed accounts of the Turkish mobilization on the Russian and Persian borders, in the vicinity of which it is estimated that twenty-seven regiments are in readiness to advance across the frontier.

Three frontier districts have been ordered to furnish further ten regiments each.

The Turkish troops are armed with the most modern weapons.—*Exclusive Service.*

THE PACIFIC FLEET.

HARMONY AT LOS ANGELES.

London via Bombay, February 14.

Telegrams from Los Angeles state that the citizens have accepted cordially the proposal of the Japanese residents to participate in the reception of the American Fleet.—*Reuter.*

February 16.

The United States fleet has arrived at Valparaiso.—*Reuter.*

New York, February 17.

Baron Takahira, the new Japanese Ambassador to Washington, in the course of an interview on his arrival yesterday at New York, declared that the voyage of the United States fleet was exclusively an American affair, demonstrative to the world of American power. The war scare was a creation of the Press, and found no credence in Japan.

The United States fleet has passed Valparaiso.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

IMPERIAL AUDIENCES.*Peking, February 13.*

Their Majesties granted audience this morning to the Grand Council and to Jui Liang, Governor of Kiangai province.—*Special Telegram.*

February 19.

Their Majesties granted audience this morning to the Grand Council and to Chiang Kuei-ti, the newly appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Yangtze.—*Special Telegram.*

THE SINEWS OF WAR.*London, February 19.*

The Moorish State Bank, with the approval of France, has loaned to Sultan Abdul Aziz £100,000 to pay his soldiers.—*Exclusive Service.*

JAPAN.**THE SETTLEMENT IN KOREA.***Tokio, February 16.*

Eighty members of pro-Japanese societies are reported to have been murdered in Hamkyong province, Korea.

The Tokio House of Representatives has passed a Juvenile Temperance Bill.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

THE PORT ARTHUR TRIAL.*London via Bombay, February 19.*

Telegrams from St. Petersburg state that General Stoessel, in the final speech for the defence, assumed entire responsibility for the surrender of Port Arthur, saying, if an expiation of blood were necessary, let it be paid in his blood alone.—*Reuter.*

BARON TAKAHIRA.*New York, February 15.*

Baron Takahira, the new Japanese Ambassador to Washington, is expected to arrive at New York on Sunday, February 16.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

London via Bombay, February 19.

Baron Takahira, the new Japanese Ambassador, has arrived in Washington.—*Reuter.*

THE UNITED STATES ARMY.*New York, February 15.*

Students at the Westpoint Military Academy have been allowed

to graduate prematurely in order to meet the pressing needs of the army.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

THE M. C. C. IN AUSTRALIA.*London, February 15.*

In the match against New South Wales at Sydney the M. C. C. made 298 runs. K. L. Hutchings made 73, R. A. Young 59 and A. O. Jones 57 not out.

New South Wales has one wicket down for 10 runs.—*Exclusive Service.*

February 17.

New South Wales in the match against the M.C.C. at Sydney has made 355 runs for 9 wickets. Waddy has 101 run to his credit, not out.

(The M.C.C. score in the first innings was 298).—*Exclusive Service.*

ENGLAND'S SECOND INNINGS.*February 18.*

In the match at Sydney, New South Wales completed their first innings for 368, of which Mr. Waddy scored 107 not out.

England has so far made 255 for the loss of 4 wickets in the second innings. Mr. Fane scored 101.—*Exclusive Service.*

ENGLAND'S STRONG POSITION.*February 19.*

The English Eleven completed their innings for 456 Braund being not out, 132. New South Wales has so far made 78 for 2 wickets.—*Exclusive Service.*

* * In their first innings the M.C.C. made 298 and New South Wales 368. The Australians were thus left to make 389 in order to win; or as the game now stands with 8 wickets in hand they still have to make 311 runs.—*Ed.*

REFORM IN MACEDONIA.**THE BRITISH PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN.***London, February 15.*

Owing to the opposition of certain Powers on the ground of its impracticability, the British proposal to increase the Macedonian gendarmerie and to dispatch it in pursuit of the revolutionary bands has been abandoned in its present form.—*Exclusive Service.*

THE OPIUM QUESTION.**THE****BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND SHANGHAI.***London via Bombay, February 15.*

Sir Edward Grey, in reply to a question put by Sir Henry Cotton M.P. (Nottingham East), stated that he considered it advisable to await the result of the annual meeting of Shanghai Ratepayers before taking further action in regard to the opium dens in the Settlement.—*Reuter.*

BRITAIN AND AMERICA.**AN ARBITRATION TREATY.***London via Bombay, February 16.*

The negotiations now being conducted in Washington for a treaty of arbitration between Great Britain and the United States are progressing satisfactorily.—*Reuter.*

CHINESE IN THE TRANSVAAL.**FINGER-PRINT DIFFICULTY SOLVED.***London via Bombay, February 16.*

It is announced from Johannesburg that thumb impressions have been accepted from Chinese residents in the Transvaal as sufficient for purposes of identification, and that all their grievances are now removed.—*Reuter.*

THE BALKAN RAILWAY SCHEME.**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY AND MACEDONIA.***London via Bombay, February 16.*

The proposal of Austria-Hungary to link up its railway system with the Turkish and Greek lines in Macedonia is proving a veritable apple of discord in Europe.—*Reuter.*

RESENTMENT IN SERVIA.*London via Bombay, February 18.*

The Servian Press protests against the Austrian railway project, and expresses its thanks to the Press of Russia, Great Britain, France and Italy for their attitude. It attributes to Austria a design

to dominate the whole Balkans, backed up by Germany, in order to weaken the Slavs in favour of the Germans.

Reuter's correspondent at Berlin states on authoritative information that Germany regards the Austrian scheme, in the same light as other railways, as tending to promote civilization and serving solely economic interests. Germany would similarly regard the Danube-Adriatic railway which Russia is reported to be considering.

Diplomatists in Berlin give it as their opinion, however, that it would have been better if Austria had waited longer.—*Reuter*.

A PESSIMISTIC OUTLOOK.

London via Bombay, February 19.

The situation in the Balkans arising from the Austrian project for a railway to Salonika is the absorbing topic both at Home and abroad.

The Austrian Press is confident of a peaceful solution to the question, believing that Russia will accept, as a counter concession, the railway from the Danube to the Adriatic.

"The Times" says that the shattering of the concert of the Powers has destroyed the hope of reforms in Macedonia. Great Britain is faced with a dangerous problem, but is ready to coerce the Porte.

"The Daily Telegraph" expresses the opinion that the foundations of European peace have quietly begun to sink. Stern times are approaching.—*Reuter*.

DOUBT IN RUSSIA.

The St. Petersburg newspapers are discussing the possibility of war with Turkey.—*Reuter*.

MOROCCO.

FRANCO-SPANISH RELATIONS.

London via Bombay, February 15.

The Spanish Government denies that there are differences of opinion between itself and France on the subject of Morocco.—*Reuter*.

THE TATSU MARU INCIDENT.

Tokio, February 17.

The Japan Shipowners Union has resolved to lend all possible assistance to the demand of the owners of the Tatsu Maru (arrested on the charge of gun-running off Macao) not only for the release of the vessel, but also for compensation.—*Our Own Correspondent*.

PORTUGAL.

PROVOCATION AND RESTRAINT.

London, February 17.

A large number of men belonging to the labouring class placed wreaths yesterday on the graves of the regicides in Lisbon. The police would not allow speeches to be made, but otherwise they did not interfere with the demonstration.—*Exclusive Service*.

SPECIAL SERVICE.

By arrangement with "Der Ostasiatische Lloyd."

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, February 12.

Herr von Schoen, the Secretary of the Foreign Office, has declared, in addressing the budget committee of the Reichstag, that there is no intention in the agreement about the Baltic to make it a *mare clausum*. The North Sea States intended by their convention to establish the fact that no one considered it desirable to undermine the status quo. To abandon Kiaochow, as has occasionally been suggested, would be a great political mistake. Admiral von Tirpitz, the Secretary of the Navy, also expressed a warning against such an idea and pointed out the economical development of the colony.

The Spanish Press is repeating its protest with regard to a joint action with France exceeding the Algeciras Act.

Baron Von Aehrenthal, the Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has stated before the delegations that there is a full agreement with Russia with regard to Macedonia.

King Manuel of Portugal has issued an amnesty for all deserters.

February 14.

The German Emperor intends to cruise for some time next spring in the Mediterranean and to arrive at Corfu on April 1 for a visit to the Achilleion, which he bought last year and on the repairing and extension of which work has been proceeding some time. All rumours are, therefore, disproved according to which the Emperor intended to be absent from the winter festivals at Court, which usually are extended up to the middle of March, and to leave the Crown Prince to represent him on these occasions.

The French Senate proposes to renew the competition with the German traffic by waterways, to enlarge the Simplon Railway and to render passable the Mont Blanc route.

Sir Edward Grey, the British Secretary of the Foreign Office, has declared in the House of Commons, that he is prepared, provided reciprocity is assured, to communicate every year to the other Powers the amount that the British Government is intending

to spend on the building of new men-of-war during the year.

M. Giers, Minister in Bucarest, and General Wogach (late of Peking) are mentioned as candidates for the post of Russian Ambassador in Tokio.

February 15.

Germany has ratified the Sugar Convention.

The Vice-President of the Russian Duma, M. von Meyendorff, has resigned his office owing to attacks made on him because of his German origin.

The Spanish troops in Morocco have temporarily occupied Maricha near Melilla.

Sultan Mulai Hafid has lodged a protest with the Legations in Tangier against a further advance of the French into the interior of Morocco.

The Paris journal "Le Temps" demands as a compensation for Russia against the concession of the Salonika railway, granted by Turkey to Austria-Hungary, another railway concession through Turkey, connecting Russia with the Danube and the Adriatic. Austria is inclined to assent. The polemic of the Russian Press about the Salonika railway is also directed personally against the Minister of Foreign Affairs M. Isvolski, who is anxious to change his post for that of an Ambassador. In the meantime M. Tscharikoff, the new associate of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who is thoroughly conversant with Balkan affairs, is negotiating about the granting of a concession for a railway to the Adriatic.

The Vienna Press points out peremptorily that it is indispensable that Montenegro should come to an understanding with Austria-Hungary.

February 16.

An English group of financiers has submitted in St. Petersburg a project, which is intended to bring about the connexion between Russian and Indian railways. The building of two lines, long planned, is involved in this project, namely the line from Merf to Quetta and that from Samarkand to Peshawar, the former of which would establish a connexion for Russia with the Arabian Sea (Karachi) and the latter with the Bay of Bengal (Calcutta).

Russian newspapers are publishing alarming rumours about Russian and Turkish mobilizations. These reports cannot be verified; they are considered here to be untrustworthy. The Turkish Embassy in St. Petersburg denies them.

Sultan Abdul Aziz of Morocco has received a loan of two million and a half francs from the Bank of Morocco.

February 17.

Sultan Abdul Aziz intends to use the two million and a half francs, lent to him by the Bank of Morocco, to reconquer the country.

Turkey officially denies that she is pursuing warlike plans against Russia. The Russian Government, on the other hand, admits that it has mobilized three divisions of Caucasian troops owing to the fact that Turkey was previously assembling a large number of troops on the frontier, which she has now stopped doing.

The Vienna "Fremdenblatt" asserts that the entente between Austria-Hungary and Russia with regard to Macedonia is still existing as before. Austria is in complete agreement with Russian railway plans in the Balkans.

The work of surveying the Sandchak railway (the line from Serajevo to Mitrovitz) will be begun in March next.

Baron Speck von Sternburg, the German Ambassador in Washington, will, with his wife, visit Cuba.

Riots have broken out in Portuguese Guinea. Portugal has dispatched three hundred troops.

February 18.

It is officially stated in St. Petersburg that Russia has no thoughts of war in connexion with the Macedonian question. It is true that this question still occupies an important position in the thoughts of the chancelleries. But the duty of all Powers concerned would be defined in the handing of new joint notes to the Porte, to show their appreciation of this fact.

Sir Edward Grey, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, has declared in the House of Commons that the Anglo-Russian agreement about Seistan, which was the key to the present strategical position of Great Britain, had secured the latter to the British. Nothing had been sacrificed in Tibet and Afghanistan.

It is reported that the Budget of the British Navy amounts to thirty-two millions sterling, that is to say, about the same sum as in the present year, when, as will be remembered, about four million pounds sterling less was asked than in the preceding years.

M. Pichon, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, is expected to visit St. Petersburg.

The Servian and the Austro-Hungarian Governments are completely in accord with regard to the question of the railway from the Danube to the Adriatic Sea.

The Greek Government will push the connexion from Larissa to the Turkish frontier during the current year.

COTTON QUOTATIONS.

Liverpool, February 18.

American Middling 6.14 d.
Egyptian 9 d.

NEWS FROM EAST ASIA.

Peking, February 18.

The Director-General of the Imperial Chinese Customs, Natung, has requested the Throne to authorize him to establish a school for the training of Custom officials. The Throne has issued an edict, complying with this request.

Hongkong February, 14.

With regard to the statement of the Tokio "Nichi Nichi" that the arms and ammunition found on board the steamer Tatsu Maru, which was seized off Macao and brought to Canton, had been shipped by the order of a German firm in Hongkong, the German Consul has made inquiry with all German firms here, and finds that none of them is connected with the alleged smuggling.

Peking, February 16.

At a recent meeting of the Chün-chichu (Grand Council), at which the Empress Dowager was present, the members again discussed the question of the introduction of a constitution. The Empress Dowager declared on this occasion that it was utterly impossible to take within the next few years any measures which would bring about a practical solution of this question.

February 17.

General Tung Fu-hsiang, who was the head of the Boxer movement in 1900, and who was banished after that insurrection to Ninghia, on the border of the Province of Kansuh and Mongolia, has died in Lanchow, the Capital of Kansuh. As Tung Fu-hsiang does not leave any sons, the Government intends to confiscate his estates.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

"THE KOBE HERALD."

London, February 11.

It is reported from Paris that Prince Eitel Friedrich, paid a visit there on his way home from Lisbon. Great precautions were taken to secure his safety. The Prince visited the tomb of Napoleon.

New York, February 11.

Mr. Hughes, Governor of New York, has begun his campaign for the Presidential nomination, with New York State as the centre of his operations, and is displaying great activity. On the 10th, he appointed General Woodward as head of the Hughes propaganda throughout the country. Much interest attaches to future developments, as President Roosevelt is said to be firmly determined to use his influence against Mr. Hughes and in favour Mr. Taft, and it is feared that a split may lead to a Democratic victory.

San Francisco, February 12.

At the preliminary Republican nomination conference at Ohio, Mr. Taft was recommended for nomination by a great majority. The opposition was very weak.

London, February 12.

The Irish estimates have been considered in the House of Commons. The Chief Secretary had to admit that there was an increase of expenditure for criminal prosecutions. It was also made apparent that the outbreak of cattle driving and other agrarian offences has in no way been subdued. The Government refused to adopt any special measures for the restoration of order.—"Osaka Asahi."

"THE SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST."

London, February 9.

The three by-elections which have taken place within the past fortnight have resulted in decisive victories for the Tariff reform candidates.

February 12.

German's 10,000 ton battleship Ersatz Bayern is ready for launching at Wilhelmshaven.

Dom Miguel of Braganza has quitted Italy where, after the assassinations in Lisbon, he was watched by the police.

The French cruiser Jeanne d'Arc with the French squadron in Morocco burst her main steam pipe near Tangier; The accident scalded four of her crew to death.—"The Kobe Herald."

San Francisco, February 8.

A great movement has been started at Philadelphia for the re-nomination of Mr. Roosevelt as the Republican Presidential candidate. The promoters are endeavouring to get support for a petition to the President, urging him to consent to stand. The Independent Labour Party, which approves of Mr. Roosevelt's attitude toward the Trusts, has passed a resolution asking him to become a candidate for the third time. Mr. Hitchcock, the Assistant Secretary of Communications, has resigned in order to take charge of the election interests of Mr. Taft. Most of the Republican members of Congress support Mr. Taft.—"Osaka Asahi."

London, February 9.

The funeral of King Charles and the Crown Prince of Portugal took place at Lisbon yesterday. The coffins were deposited in the Pantheon. The men-of-war and batteries fired the last honours. An impressive Requiem Mass was celebrated in London simultaneously. To-day King Edward and Queen Alexandra will attend the Memorial Service at St. Paul's. Their Majesties and the other Royalties will proceed to the Cathedral in private carriages without escort. The Royal Family and the congregation will wear mourning.

The Protestant Alliance condemns King Edward's attendance at the Requiem Mass for the late King and Crown Prince of Portugal on Saturday.

February 10.

The Admiralty charges "The Observer" (which lately published a forecast of the naval programme) with revealing official secrets and demands to be informed of its sources of information. The editor declares that the matter complained of was written by himself upon information which is publicly accessible. There are great dissensions in the Cabinet concerning the naval and military estimates. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Mr. Asquith are trying to compel Mr. Haldane, the Secretary of War, and Lord Tweedmouth, the First Lord of the Admiralty, to economize further. It is considered that this would be to the detriment of the Army and Navy. Leading journals, including "The Times," say that the Fleet must be put before everything.—"Osaka Mainichi."

The dilemma in which the British Cabinet has landed itself is the subject of much comment. It is considered probable that the Government will, as a way out of the difficulty, postpone the proposed outlay on the scheme of a base for the North Sea Squadron at Rosyth. Such a course, it is considered, will give great offence in Scotland.—"The Kobe Herald."

February 11.

Lord Lansdowne, the ex-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, delivered a speech in the course of the debate on Lord Curzon's motion concerning the Anglo-Russian Agreement in the House of Lords which has attracted profound attention. Pointing out that the Russian Far Eastern policy has undergone an entire change, he declared that Russia could be absolutely depended on in the future. "The Times" accepts this statement with some reservations. It expresses the opinion that in the near future, Great Britain will be able to prove the sincerity of Russia not by words but by action. Referring to the Russo-Japanese Agreement, the journal says that it has greatly eased the public mind.—"Osaka Asahi."

February 13.

The Zakkakhels have raided the Indian frontier eleven times since September last, and it is estimated that they have pillaged the town of Peshawur to the extent of a lakh of rupees. The punitive expedition dispatched by the Indian Government comprises two flying columns, and it proceeds to the Bazar Valley.

"THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."

London, February 14.

Fifteen thousand workmen are idle at Sunderland, and a crisis is feared.

The deaths are reported of Sir James Knowles and Mr. Alfred Baldwin.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Wind.	Hygro- meter.		Thermo- meter in Shade.			
	o A.M.	Attached Therm.		Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max	Min.	Initials.	
									Direction.
Feb 12	30.47	44.4	nbyne	1	32.7	32.3	38.6	30.7	o
13	30.47	44.2	nw	1	36.0	33.1	40.5	31.6	o
14	30.55	44.1	nbyw	1	35.5	32.7	40.7	33.8	om
15	30.55	44.6	nbyw	1	40.5	37.5	45.0	30.7	ps
16	30.42	45.4	nne	3	40.7	37.3	43.8	33.3	o
17	30.43	45.6	nne	3	39.6	35.6	44.8	34.5	c
18	30.43	45.0	wnw	3	32.4	30.0	39.7	29.6	c

b. blue sky
c. clouds
f. fog
h. hail
l. lightning
m. misty (hazy)
o. overcast (dull)
r. rain
s. snow
t. thunder
z. calm

Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

SHANGHAI.

Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.

1908.

	Fahr. Thermometer		Rainfall
	Min.	Max.	in inches.
Feb. 14	34.7	40.2	0.02
" 15	33.2	46.2	...
" 16	36.4	42.3	...
" 17	35.8	42.6	...
" 18	30.7	37.8	0.06
" 19	28.0	44.3	...
" 20	28.5	48.8	...

1907.

	Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall.
	Min.	Max.	in inches.
Feb. 14	32.8	33.2	Snow
" 15	32.0	35.0	20.5
" 16	32.8	43.8	...
" 17	33.3	41.5	0.39
" 18	32.3	41.5	...
" 19	35.8	44.5	...
" 20	34.3	42.0	...

DR. W. W. MYERS, of H. M. Consular Service, who has been the guest of Sir Pelham Warren since Christmas, left on Friday night for Hongkong.

COLONEL SCOTT MONCRIEFF, after four years in charge of a battalion, was to leave Hongkong on Saturday, on half-pay.

AMONG the passengers who left on Tuesday by the P. & O. S. Devanha were two of the oldest and most respected "China hands," the Venerable the Archdeacon A. E. Moule and Mrs. Moule, who are proceeding to England on a well-earned furlough. Although Ningpo has been their headquarters, their association with Mid-China for a period of forty-seven years caused them to be regarded as fellow-residents in this as well as in neighbouring ports, and the best wishes of the community will go with them for a safe and happy return to the old country.

A PRETTY wedding took place at St. John's Pro-Cathedral, Jessfield, on Monday afternoon. The contracting parties, Miss S. N. Woodward and the Rev. C. F. McRae, are both members of the American Episcopal Mission. The service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. Bishop F. R. Graves, D.D. The Rev. B. L. Ancell of Soochow was best man and four children undertook the duties of bridesmaids and pages. The Pro-Cathedral was prettily decorated for the occasion. A reception was afterwards held at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Hawks-Pott, where a host of friends assembled to congratulate the Rev. and Mrs. McRae. The bride and bridegroom will spend their honeymoon up river.

By the P. & O. S. Nubia arrived a carbon portrait of the late Mr. G. J. Morrison, the first President of the Society of Engineers and Architects, which has been presented to the Society by his widow, with a request that it may be hung in the Society's Meeting Room. The portrait, which is handsomely framed, is life-size and an excellent specimen of photographic work. It will be formally presented to the Society at a meeting to be held on Tuesday, the 25th instant.

At 3.30 p.m. on Monday the Fire Brigade was called out to Tiendong Road, where a serious fire had broken out in some native houses in an alleyway off the Tiendong Road. The outbreak originated in a brass-smith's shop, No. 441 Tiendong Road, and spread rapidly to the adjoining houses.

Powerful streams were soon being played on the fire, and after a little more than an hour's hard work all danger was over. Nos. 339 and 440 Tiendong Road were insured in the Scottish Union for Tls. 1,500, and No. 442 was damaged by fire and water. The fire is said to have originated through sparks from the blacksmith's shop lodging amongst some dry timber. The owner of the house has been placed under arrest, and will appear before the Mixed Court.

ABOUT 6.20 p.m. on Monday the alarm was given for a fire at Chang Su-ho's Garden. It appears that some sparks from an adjacent chimney set fire to the roof of the bar-room. The fire was a very small one, and was extinguished by the police and the staff before the brigade arrived, but little damage being done.

We regret to learn from the "China Times" of February 10 that Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of the I. M. C., is so ill as to be confined to his bed.

We regret to record the death, at 42 Woosung Road, on Saturday, of Captain William Peter Johnston, late Master in the China Merchant's Steam Navigation Company. Captain Johnston, who was 68 years of age, was a native of Sweden. When he first came to Shanghai he was employed as toll keeper at the bridge crossing the Soochow Creek. Later he was in the Service of the Shanghai Cargo Boat Company and then (in 1867) he joined the China Merchant's S. N. Co., rising to the position of Yangtze pilot for the company and afterwards to Captain on the Shanghai-Hankow line. Captain Johnston retired about a year ago. The funeral took place at Bubbling Well Cemetery on Sunday afternoon and was attended by a large number of friends and Masonic brethren.

It is sometimes astonishing to observe what risk to himself and what loss to others a Chinese thief will cause in order to secure an article that to him is worth so little. Last week we had an instance in thefts from steamers of brass safety-valve covers, on which no more than one per cent of the original cost could be obtained from a receiver. Another example comes from the Bubbling Well district. A Chinese boatman known to be in possession of \$4 was decoyed by a gang towards the creek after 11 p.m. on Friday. When the victim had been led to a quiet spot he was set upon by four men armed with knives and stabbed severely several times on the back of the head and neck. The four men then rifled his pockets and cleared out, with a dollar apiece for which they had made themselves liable to long terms of imprisonment. The wounded man, however, was able to tell the names of his assailants and on Saturday the leader of the gang was placed under arrest.

At 2.30 p.m. on Friday, shortly after the arrival at her berth of the steamer Tatung, one of her firemen caught a Chinese, who stated that he was a mechanic, in the act of removing one of

the steamer's brass safety valve covers. When arrested the thief had two brass covers in his possession, which he had succeeded in taking without attracting attention. He was at once handed over to the French police and will appear at the French Mixed Court this morning. The Kuling and several other steamers have had similar articles stolen recently and it is to be hoped that the French authorities will succeed in finding out the prisoner's confederates, including the receiver, for these brass covers as old brass are worth about \$1, while the cost of replacing them is about Tls. 75 each.

A FOREIGNER walking along Ward Road at 9 p.m. on Friday saw the body of a Chinese hanging from the limb of a tree which stands at the side of the road. He hastily cut the man down and found that life was not extinct. Prompt measures restored animation thoroughly and the Chinese was taken to the police station, not much the worse for his experience.

THE Australian Government is inviting tenders for the construction of two submarine cables to be laid between Victoria and Tasmania; negotiations for the purchase of the E. & E. T. Co.'s lines having failed.

THE four new fifteen-pounder guns of the Shanghai Volunteer Artillery are now ready for use so far as the Battery is concerned, but it appears that no definite arrangements have yet been made with regard to ponies. The staff, however, has the matter in hand and an early settlement of a very difficult matter will, no doubt, be made. On Saturday the new artillery was taken to the S.V.C. gunshed and early in the afternoon the members of the Battery under the directions of Lieut. A. J. Stewart, Sgt.-Major Mellows and Q. M. S. Mathews, of the orderly room staff, fitted up the guns. The Battery fell in and the four guns were assembled, together with the four limbers and two waggons. The new harness has arrived and the complete outfit is now in working order.

THE members of the I. M. Customs Club gave a very successful Social Concert on Saturday night which was well attended by members of the Club and their friends. Mr. Hodgson scored the success of the evening with his rendering in soprano-falsetto of "Beautiful Isle" and "Flight of Ages" and the Customs celebrated comiques—Messrs. Sherman and Stormes—were, as usual, responsible for much of the evening's merriment and loudly applauded. Mr. F. D. Tyndall was very successful in a monologue burlesque, in which he introduced many topical allusions, and the instrumental numbers, which included cornet solos by Mr. Redmond, a banjo and mandoline quartette by Mrs. Green, Messrs. L. de Gracia, E. Mellows and Greenwood, a banjo solo by Mr. de Gracia and pianoforte solos by Messrs. Mellows and Hulitt, were much appreciated. A sand dance by Mr. Hourihan and a hornpipe by Mr. Ohigwidden were heartily applauded, as were also senti-

mental songs by Messrs. A. Johnson and L. Due, and the Customs Club is to be congratulated upon the talent of its members.

THE final performance of "Die Fledermaus" by the Deutscher Theater Verein was given at the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday night before a very large audience, which by constant and hearty applause showed its appreciation of the picturesque scenery, pretty dances and catchy music, with which the operetta abounds, and of the singing and acting of the members of the caste. The curtain had to be raised time after time at the close of each act, and the performers were the recipients of innumerable baskets of beautiful flowers.

A HOCKEY match between H. M. S. Astræa and a Shanghai team was played on the Cricket Club's ground yesterday afternoon and resulted in an easy victory for the naval team by eight goals to none. Their opponents were outplayed from start to finish.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Shanghai Gas Company, Ltd., held on Tuesday afternoon, it was decided to recommend the payment of a final dividend for 1907 of Tls. 4 per share, being at the rate of eight per cent on the paid up capital, making fifteen per cent for the year.

WE are informed by the Manager of the local office of the New Zealand Insurance Company that a cable has been received from the Company's head office stating that its losses in the recent conflagration at Christchurch amount only to £10,500.

WE are informed that the China Investment Corporation is in process of reconstruction. Messrs. H. J. Black and B. Lichtig have resigned their positions on the board of management and retain no interest in the Corporation, beyond, in the case of Mr. H. J. Black, that attaching to the post of agent away from Shanghai. H.E. Y. C. Tong has accepted the presidency of the Corporation and Captain W. Kirton will take an active part in the Management. A further announcement is promised in regard to the vacancies on the Advisory board.

THE Imperial Russian Post Office now applies the reduced rate of postage on Letters for countries of the Postal Union, in compliance with the Regulations of the Rome Convention.—Consequently the postage now is:

First 20 grammes 10 cents.
Each additional 20 gr..... 6 cents.

On Monday night the series of dances which are given annually by the members of the Marine Officers' Association was brought to a close. There was a large attendance of guests, who thoroughly enjoyed the programme of dance music furnished by the Filipino Band. During an interval between the dances, Capt. Lofgren, in a brief speech, stated that he believed this season's dances had been more successful than any held in previous years. He thanked the

guests for their attendance and said that the Committee was deeply obliged to the ladies for their assistance in making the dances successful. Particularly were they indebted to Mrs. Purton and Mrs. Whitelaw, and as a small token of the Committee's appreciation of the services rendered by these ladies he wished to present them with bouquets. Unfortunately Capt. Purton was so seriously ill that Mrs. Purton was unable to attend, but the bouquet would be forwarded to her. On behalf of the guests, Capt. Lowe thanked the committee for the pleasant dances which they had been privileged to attend and called for three cheers for the members of the M. M. O. A. and their hard-working secretary, Mr. Miller.

AN expedition is being organized in New South Wales to explore a portion of New Guinea never yet trodden by foot of white man.

THE following is the list of vessels built and launched by The Kiangnan Dock and Engineering Works in 1907:—

Vessels & Type.	Tons.	I. H. P.	Registry.
Tsin Tung steel twin screw			
Towboat	210	550	Tientsin.
An Hai, s.s. police cruiser	170	450	Ch. Govt.
Suiliu s.s. police cruiser	170	450	" "
Ve Ling, single screw launch ..	50	130	Shanghai.
Li Tung single screw launch ..	50	130	" "
Ping Fuh, steel screw towboat ..	195	550	Hankow.
Ping Chow, steel screw towboat ..	195	550	" "
Ping On, s.s. cold storage launch ..	72	150	Shanghai.
Three vessels, S. Hopper barges ..	408	—	" "
Four vessels, steel lighters	1,613	—	S'hai & T'sin
Four vessels, wooden barges ..	580	—	Hankow.
Ten vessels, steel pontoons	230	—	" "
Total twenty-nine vessels of 3,943 tons and engines of 2,960 I. H. P.			

"The Health and Vigour of an individual depend upon the quantity and quality of the blood. When the tissues have been at work, there are thrown into the blood waste products, and if these be not eliminated but (through any cause) detained in the blood, they influence nutrition and function and finally produce organic disease."—"The Humanitarian." In cases of Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, the effects of Clarke's Blood Mixture are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.—ADVT.

CHINESE STUDENTS IN ENGLAND.

February 17.

It is three months since we called attention to the formation of a committee for the furtherance of the education of Chinese students in England, and we are glad to be able to record the fact that no time has been lost by that body in setting to work. The keynote of the undertaking, as the Committee points out, was to encourage by responsive action in Great Britain the growing desire evinced by literary and commercial classes in China to send their sons abroad for education in foreign schools, universities and technical institutions. Owing to lack of accurate knowledge regarding the facilities that could be obtained for the education of Chinese, and owing to uncertainty as to the cost of such education and the absence of definite information as to the provision of suitable schools and homes, the number of Chinese students proceeding to England has been considerably less than that of those who have been sent to countries where information on these and similar points was available. What was required, therefore, was practical assistance to intending students in making them conversant with conditions prevailing in England, and this has already been afforded in some measure by the first report issued under the auspices of the new committee. The document gives in tabulated form the approximate cost of educating Chinese in England in various departments of study, including the medical, legal and engineering professions, schools and universities, railways, engineering works and shipbuilding yards. In each case the duration of the course is given, while the approximate cost is divided under two headings, educational fees and board and personal expenses. From this table it is to be inferred that the minimum estimate for the annual expenses of a student is from £190 to £200, but we notice that a writer in the current number of "The World's Chinese Students' Journal" is inclined to place the figure a little lower. The Committee recommends that no student should be sent to England without at least an elementary knowledge of the English language, and it is prepared to insist that no sectarian teaching shall be imposed upon students against the expressed wishes of their parents or guar-

dians. Further, a register of institutions prepared to accept Chinese youths has been compiled, as well as a list of families, private tutors and boarding establishments willing to receive them and to arrange for their board, lodging or instruction.

It remains for the practical work and the sound intentions of the Committee to be made as widely known as possible throughout China. With this end in view the co-operation of the Shanghai and Tientsin Branches of the China Association has been invited, and it is to be hoped that every institution and individual in a position to do so will assist in furthering the object of the Committee. The benefits to be derived from the scheme are, frankly, on both sides. For the Chinese Western education in a Western land has many advantages over the best tuition on Western lines in their own country; in England they will find such education as efficient and practical as elsewhere, and probably cheaper. On the other hand our commercial interests should benefit from the spread in China of first hand knowledge of British methods and material. Our Chinese friends are too great admirers of a *quid pro quo* to feel disappointment that our solicitude in this respect is not unimpeachably altruistic; and they will be ready enough to recognize that they stand to gain more than they are called upon to give. The work of familiarizing Great Britain and the Empire to the Chinese has, simultaneously with the efforts of the London Committee, received promised impetus from an unexpected quarter. Messrs. Thomas Cook and Sons have turned their attention to China and through the medium of the Chinese Press announce that they are about to institute round-the-world tours for Chinese. The first of these journeys is to start in April from Hongkong; thence via Canada to England, returning by the Continent and Egypt. They are designed for purposes of education as well as of mere sight-seeing. Special attention will be paid to industrial centres and visits will be made to the principal factories in these towns. The cost of the five and a half months' tour is to be £350. For Chinese who undertake such a trip knowledge of a foreign language will not be necessary, and it would be difficult to conceive any more potentially instructive agency for the bulk of the wealthy classes whose lot being cast in provinces off the beaten track has prevented them from travelling much, even in their own empire.

The example thus set by Great Britain in placing facilities before China to enable her to adapt herself to modern conditions is likely to find numerous imitators. Already in President's Roosevelt's annual message to Congress we note that a paragraph is devoted to the subject, "This nation," he says, "should help in every practicable way in the education of the Chinese people."

One way of doing this is by promoting the coming of Chinese students to this country and making it attractive to them to take courses at our universities and higher educational institutions." The German Government on the other hand favours the establishment of a German training college in Kiaochow, in order that German influence may be spread simultaneously with the German language. Whether the refusal of the Reichstag to vote the appropriation of 375,000 marks for this purpose will divert the Government from its scheme remains to be seen; but it is more than probable that the latter will refuse to lose sight of the object it has in view. Competition among foreign countries, however, will be the more advantageous for China, and she may be expected to benefit by it, if there is truth in the remarks of the writer in the Journal already referred to;—"In students, especially those educated in foreign countries, lies the salvation of our great empire; this is a view shared by not a few among our countrymen."

THE PRICE OF MODERATION.

February 18.

WHEN Max O'Rell said of the American multi-millionaires that to have an income of £2,000 or £3,000 a year was, in their estimation, to be living in fairly decent poverty, the majority of his readers must have wished that they could be thus decently poor. But the intervening years have brought their changes. There are more incomes now of £2,000 or £3,000, if we may judge by trade returns, than there used to be: and for this reason, perhaps, their owners are more inclined than formerly to take the millionaires' point of view that they really are but just able to keep their heads above water. Such, at least, is the conclusion to which we are impelled by the correspondence on "Middle-class Expenditure" which has been running briskly for some weeks in "The Spectator." The ball was set rolling by one who signs him-

self accurately enough "A Bad Economist." For with a family of no more than a wife and three children he finds that he cannot make both ends meet on £2,000 per annum. "I do not keep a carriage nor a motor-car nor even a governess cart," he complains; "my wife is not extravagant. I keep very little company." Yet "Bad Economist" can only put his finger on four fixed items of expenditure,—rent £120, repairs, an average of £50, education for the three children £450, and four servants and a gardener,—and he leaves himself on the wrong side of £2,000. "The worst of it is," he adds, "that any one item of expenditure, taken by itself, seems not only reasonable but inevitable." This last admission is immediately seized upon by "Micauber" as additional evidence of "the general error of the present day"; that we are living above our incomes: and other correspondents contribute balance sheets which follow the same line of thought in showing how the original writer ought to contrive a balance on the credit side of at least two or three hundred a year. Thus, for example, it is suggested that income should be systematically apportioned somewhat as follows: rent and taxes, 10 per cent; house-keeping, 40 per cent; insurance, 5 per cent; clothing, 15 per cent; charity, (an item which some writers appear to overlook), 10 per cent; education, 10 per cent; savings, 10 per cent. The correspondent here quoted holds that if more attention were paid to these affairs by our teachers and guardians of morals, "quite as much benefit would accrue to the community as from many of the public exhortations we are accustomed to hear." But it is noticeable that no one appears to regard "A Bad Economist" as being anything but moderately well-to-do; and the first real touch of comparative criticism is supplied by the letter of a clergyman who has brought up a considerable family and steered clear of debt on £170 a year, and can describe himself in the *nom de guerre* of "Contentus Sorte Mea."

This writer's management is so remarkable that it deserves to be quoted in some detail. At the present time his income is about £152 from which, after deducting rent, taxes and insurance, he finds himself with a nett two guineas a week. This he apportions broadly as follows: fuel and lights, £9; wages, £9; education (average for outside help) £10; travelling (average) £5; literature, correspondence

etc. £7. He and his family which numbers at least six or seven, the precise figures he does not give, expect "four square meals" a day, and have them. Most extraordinary statement of all, the writer has had to move house nearly thirty times in the last thirty years. Yet he has weathered the storm with a small balance to the good and, if he were to die to-morrow "there would be no worries or complications. Thousands of people in comfortable circumstances," he writes, "have never known what 'life' is. They cannot shake themselves free from the idea that it is in one way or another represented by money. Walking, gardening, wood-chopping,—what is better than these? I do not think I could accept a free holiday in Switzerland. The voice of the clear brook outside my door is too sweet." It is an ideal picture: and surely "Contentus" may be held to have proved that "apparently necessary and inevitable expenses are not really so," which he regards as the moral of his story. At the same time it will be noticed for the defence of "A Bad Economist," and of many others like him, that a new standard of measurement has been thrust into the discussion which depends upon the meaning we attach to the phrase "middle-class." The Dowager Countess of Morfa, living in the days of the Regency, held that the world was divided into two classes only; there was Family, and there were those outside Family; and with regard to the latter she felt that their existence must be tolerated but was not to be recognized. With the advent of Money, of course, the Countess's principles have become antiquated, and it is interesting that they still appear to hold force for "Contentus Sorte Mea." He claims to belong to the middle class by virtue of his profession, the Church, although the class which is socially below him contains many men richer than he. On the other hand "Bad Economist" calls himself middle-class on £2,000 a year; but we may imagine that many of his neighbours no better off than himself would be affronted by the same appellation. One, for example, can hunt and shoot on £1,000 a year and this suggests the County class which, apart from the fact that the writer signs himself "A Younger Son", runs hard upon Family and certainly will not endure to be called middle-class. Half the solution of the difficulty might be found in the precise degree of humility which we are willing to accept with the

label of middle-class, and the income which will make an excellent show in Clapham or Streatham may be swamped when its owner finds that his social tastes incline him to Kensington or Regent's Park. It would be hard to condemn him. For "Shakespeare and the musical glasses" are no less a legitimate idea of life than wood-cutting and gardening.

Beyond the sphere of the ideal treatment of life there is the practical test of the value of money in any given country. By this standard of measurement living in England is at once costly and inexpensive; the former, because there is so much money in the country per head of population; the latter, (and this without venturing upon the dangerous ground of Free Trade and Protection), because the common medium of exchange, a sovereign, is fixed so high that the vast majority of people are obliged to recognize its subdivisions for the purposes of every day life, and thus a penny, or at the utmost a shilling becomes the practical unit of measurement. Frenchmen, more economical than Englishmen, though hardly less wealthy, have fixed their own unit even lower; and while the centime is found to be too small for practical use, and the franc is something to be looked at twice before it is dissolved, the thrifty French housewife calculates her outlay by the sou, even up to the degree of a *pièce de cent sous* which is officially five francs. Against this it has to be remembered that life in the United States is expensive largely in proportion as the dollar coinage is universal. The argument that America is naturally rich and, therefore, naturally expensive, will only partially meet the case since prices in the Dominion of Canada, whose resources have only begun to be developed and where the dollar is equally universal, are almost equally high. These considerations serve to throw light upon the now common complaint of the cost of life in the Far East, particularly in Shanghai. However much responsibility attaches to the almost proverbial hospitality of the Settlement, and to the fact that man for man it is probably wealthier than any other community in the world, a great part of the foundation of expense rests upon the fact that we have a dollar coinage and that its subdivisions have no recognizable name that can raise them to the dignity of a recognizable asset. It is hardly doubtful that if 50 cent pieces were coined with a separate, and not merely a numerical designation, they

would go far to reduce the general standard of expensiveness in all the ordinary things of life. Reform in prices would not come at once, for association is slow to change and values must be determined naturally by many factors. What we have to recognize is that the cost of living in Shanghai is steadily increasing while the value of the common tender remains where it did in general estimation; and if the introduction of a new unit did not actually arrest the upward tendency of price it should tend towards economy by allowing us to think in less unwieldy material than the dollar.

AUSTRIA'S RAILWAY SCHEME.

February 19.

WHEN Baron von Aehrenthal, Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced to the Hungarian Delegation that his Government intended to link up the Austrian railway system with the Turkish system in Macedonia and ultimately with the Greek line from the Piræus to Larissa, he was probably not unprepared for the reception immediately accorded to the scheme in Europe. He was clearly treading on thin ice; but, although he may not have been well advised in his choice of the moment at which to make his announcement, he would not have spoken without being assured of some extraneous support. Outside the domain of politics, indeed, the construction of the proposed railway from Serajevo, the capital of Bosnia, to Mitrovitz, the terminus of the present branch line that joins the Belgrade-Nish-Salonika railway at Uskub in the centre of Macedonia, could only meet with general approval. In spite of the consistent amelioration of sea-travel, a reduction in the number of hours or days spent on board the best-equipped steamer is as much an object of attainment as the curtailment of time on the whole journey. Consequently a route to Egypt and beyond that entailed only thirty hours at sea between the Piræus and Alexandria or Port Said, together with a comfortable through journey across Europe, would be assured of immediate popularity. To-day the traveller must be hard pressed for time who takes the mail-boat between Brindisi and Port Said; the majority prefers the route via Naples or via Marseilles; few know the pleasure of spending an additional forty-eight hours to visit

Athens, to take possibly the most picturesque train-journey in Europe along the Corinth Canal, and to land at Brindisi after a brief halt at Corfu. With the realization of the Austro-Hungarian scheme Athens, Thebes and Thermopylae will become actualities to the travelling public, while in the hours that to-day are spent at sea it will be possible to admire the wild scenery of the North-western portion of Macedonia, the forest-lands and pastures of Bosnia.

The Austro-Hungarian Government, however, is not actuated solely by a desire to cater for tourists and others whom business or inclination may take to the East, when it proposes to begin next month the construction of a connecting railway over the 150 miles that now separate Serajevo from Mitrovitz. Strategically such a line would give to it, on the basis of a working agreement with the Porte, an advantage in Macedonia that none of the other claimants to the Sultan's heritage could afford to ignore. The terminus of the railway, notwithstanding the interest that Baron von Aehrenthal would seek to arouse in its ultimate destination on the Gulf of Aegina, would be Salonika, the goal of Austro-Hungarian aspirations in Europe. To allow without a suitable *quid pro quo* direct communication over what would virtually constitute an exclusively Austrian railway system between Vienna and the northernmost port of the Aegean Sea would, from a Russian point of view, be a disastrous act of self-denial. It is probable that no clear understanding exists in the chancelleries of Europe of the manner in which Macedonia is to be ultimately partitioned among all or some of the eight nationalities now busy pegging out territorial rights in this Naboth's vineyard; but it may be regarded as an axiom with the two greater claimants, Austria-Hungary and Russia, that the political distance that separates them from Salonika and Constantinople respectively must not be lessened in the case of one without a corresponding advance on the part of the other. The reply of Russia to the Austrian railway proposal is, it is alleged, a demand for a railway concession from the Danube to the Adriatic Sea. Further information on this proposal is necessary before its practical significance can be gauged, for Russia is separated from Macedonia by Rumania and Bulgaria. The Tsar's Government, however, is not the only hostile critic of the all-Austrian line to Salonika. Serbia also is threatened, if not politically, at

least commercially; for it derives no little benefit from the fact that it lies on the main railway route to Constantinople and to Salonika, and any scheme to deflect traffic along a parallel route avoiding Servian territory must prejudice the country's already precarious revenue.

Other signs than the railway scheme are not wanting to show that, in spite of the mandate given to Austria-Hungary and Russia by the European Concert to effect reforms in Macedonia, neither Power interprets this commission as a hindrance upon any attempt to further its own peculiar interests at the possible expense of the other. Clear indications of direct influence are not always forthcoming, but there are innumerable ways of pitting the rival forces of Pan-Germanism and Pan-Slavism against one another. The statement that the Vienna Press is urging in peremptory tones upon Montenegro the necessity of "coming to an understanding with Austria-Hungary" is but an episode in the never-ceasing struggle of conflicting interests in this distracted quarter of Europe. Ties of race prescribe for Montenegro the rôle of a Slav advanced post in the Balkans; and although the shrewdness and statesmanship of her present ruler have enabled her to profit by both Austrian and Russian patronage without committing herself irrevocably to either, the leanings of the country are, undoubtedly, towards the kindred Power. Recent events in the Principality, notably the grant of full constitutional government by Prince Nicholas as an unsolicited gift to his people, have served to emphasize popular predilections, and the lifting of the veil of autocratic diplomacy may have rudely shaken previous misconceptions in Vienna. Such problems, however, are but the fringe of the great Macedonian question, and of the importance of this we have been recently reminded by a member of the British Cabinet, who declared that it contained the elements of a conflict between Turkey and Great Britain, bringing in its train that worst of all political catastrophes, a general European war.

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BRITAIN'S SEA-POWER.

February 20.

THE recent action of forty Liberal members of Parliament in passing a resolution of protest against a reduction of the naval estimates is not an isolated instance of the concern that the force of circumstances has aroused in more watchful quarters regarding our present position at sea. History affords a sufficient number of instances of the fate that has overtaken nations at a moment when pride of position has led to the complacent belief that danger has been finally eliminated. The past year has been peculiarly prolific in the settlement of Great Britain's international difficulties, and there is a natural tendency to allow the immediate future to take care of itself in the assurance that our position is safe for an indefinite number of years. But simultaneously with the satisfactory adjustment of diplomatic questions there arises a more rapid change in the conditions of sea-power than at any previous moment in our own or another nation's history; such a fact is of more vital concern to our Empire than the ratification of any number of *ententes* or Agreements. We have achieved the position of the greatest naval Power in the world and it is an axiom that we wish to keep it. The necessities of our existence, our immense import trade and our vast dominions, one and all spell complete and inalienable dependence in all respects upon the sea. Our position, however, to-day shows signs of being seriously threatened, and the problem confronting Great Britain is whether the nation will awaken to a full realization of its jeopardy, before it is too late. The two-Power standard at sea which we have accepted as the minimum basis of our naval supremacy will, unless we understand the situation in time, rapidly become a lost ideal. A noteworthy increase in the naval expenditure and armaments of the United States will follow the cruise of the Pacific Fleet; but the real fight for existence is forced upon us by Germany, and it is across the North Sea that attention should be riveted. The last remnants of Teutophobia were eliminated from Great Britain by the Emperor's visit; the silent struggle, therefore, that is to decide the relative position of the two countries at sea indicates merely the normal evolution of powerful nationalities, devoid, happily, of personal animosity.

Elsewhere in this issue we publish an article from "The Navy League Journal" which sets forth at length

the cause for the anxiety that has been evoked in regard to the respective tendencies of the naval programmes of Germany and Great Britain. In 1898 the German naval estimates amounted to less than £6,500,000; in 1904 they had been increased by £4,000,000; in 1907 they advanced to £14,000,000; next year they will be nearly £20,500,000, and for 1911, when another sensational rise is indicated, they are already put down at £23,000,000. British naval estimates, on the other hand, were under £24,000,000 in 1898, over £37,500,000 in 1904, but last year had decreased to £32,000,000. Of the enthusiasm in Germany for the navy there can no longer be any doubt, and in spite of isolated warnings, the country is clearly committed to a rapidly increasing programme. Within a decade it is estimated that, if the present rate of construction is maintained in Germany, Great Britain will be called upon to expend £50,000,000 annually upon her fleet. There is only one method of deterring Germany from her present course and that is to place beyond all possibility of doubt our determination to lay down two keels for every one that she orders. If any weakness is shown in the financial struggle, any tendency to be led away by specious arguments regarding *matériel* or *personnel*, we invite the indefinite continuation of the conflict. The problem resolves itself, therefore, into one of monetary strain. For the moment we are not concerned with the internal organization of the navy; nor is it contended that hitherto our naval programme has not kept pace with the country's requirements. The change in the conditions of sea-power is of quite recent growth, although the shadow of current events has long been visible, and our concern should be for the future alone.

What, then, is to be the attitude of the country towards the prospect of an annual naval vote of from £40,000,000 to £50,000,000? We all know that there can be only one answer, but it is essential that the answer should be given at once unequivocally, and not be wrung from the nation in the face of more imminent danger than obtains to-day. The problem, however, constitutes a sufficient tax upon the resources of even a rich nation that numbers only 44,000,000 souls, and it may well give rise to a discussion upon the practicability of bringing in the 13,000,000 additional Britons overseas, whose revenue-producing power is proportionately greater than the home country's, to share this further bur-

den. As in 1900 these "younger nations" did not hesitate to contribute men's lives when the common interests of the Empire required the sacrifice, so to-day it is not to be supposed that they will hesitate to contribute revenue, if only they can, be brought to realize that the sacrifice is as necessary as the former one of eight years ago. Unfortunately, we are slow as a race to appreciate the imminence of danger, and the warnings that are now being raised at home are likely to be attributed to the lucubrations of alarmists. Nevertheless, they should be persisted in, until their very repetition forces those who are now sceptical, to investigate for themselves the conditions of sea-power as they stand to-day. Reflexion without prejudice can lead to but one conclusion.

NOTES & COMMENTS.

February 17.

OPIUM IN THE SETTLEMENT.

In one brief sentence Sir Edward Grey has disposed of the Bishop of London, Sir Henry Cotton and a score of other irresponsible sentimentalists who have been engaged in denouncing to equally unenlightened audiences this Settlement as the quintessence of all that is wicked, because the Municipal Council refrained from adopting the unconstitutional procedure of closing down arbitrarily the opium dens in the middle of the financial year without reference to the body of Ratepayers. With a practical knowledge of what an executive in the position of the Council can and cannot do, the Foreign Secretary has intimated that he is not prepared to take further action in the matter until the Ratepayers at the Annual Meeting have been able to signify their intention in regard to the opium dens in the Settlement. This attitude sums up in a few words what we have long sought to impress upon the many well-meaning people who, with no consideration for administrative exigencies, have rushed eagerly into diatribes against Shanghai. It is also the official attitude of the Council, according to its last published Minute on the subject. In a few weeks that intervene before the Annual Ratepayers' Meeting we hope that the question of closing the dens will occupy the attention of the public, so that specific and practical schemes may be briefly submitted to the Meeting. It is not yet announced whether the Anti-Opium League in China, in return for the support of the Member for Nottingham East and others, will memorialize the Home Secretary to introduce total prohibition in Nottinghamshire.

NAVIGATION ON THE UPPER YANGTZE.

In spite of the belief of the Earl of Ronaldshay and others that steam

navigation on the Upper Yangtze is chimerical, an attempt is about to be made to demonstrate its feasibility. The Syndicat Franco-Anglais du Yangtze, comprising some of the most powerful capitalists of Paris and London, has been formed with this object in view. The Syndicate bases its claim to begin operations on the fifth clause of the Mackay Treaty, which provides that between Ichang and Chungking "until improvements can be carried out, steamship owners shall be allowed, subject to approval by the Imperial Maritime Customs, to erect at their own expense appliances for hauling through the rapids." The Chinese Government has been notified that the Syndicate intends to establish regular steamship communication between Chungking and Ichang, and favourable reports on the proposed system have been received from the various Customs authorities. It is understood that the required regulations have already been drawn up, and only the sanction of the Waiwupu is required before the work can begin. The Syndicate intends to build special rapid-boats, worked by cable stations at each rapid. A powerful tug of special design, with a number of barges in tow, would then be able to go direct from Ichang to Chungking, being taken across each of the rapids by one of the rapid-boats. At the same time, to comply with the terms of the Mackay treaty, the rapid-boats would be at the service of ascending and descending junks, and it is claimed that the proposed system would render navigation speedy and safe at any time of the year, and whatever be the condition of the rapids. It is intended to establish a weekly service each way, and the trip is expected to occupy ten days up and five down. The whole project has been carefully worked out by expert engineers, who have surveyed the river for the purpose. At first it is intended to make a trial with one boat only, and the cost of this experiment, which will amount to about £80,000, will be borne by the Syndicate. Messrs Yarrow and Co., whose torpedo-boats and shallow-draft steamers are world-famous, have undertaken to build the tugs and the rapid-boats. This firm has built boats on a similar principle for other difficult rivers, and at present its craft are successfully negotiating the Upper Rhone and the Iron Gates of the Danube.

THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK.

We have all heard of the men who have wagered that they would make the tour of the world under various eccentrically accepted difficulties; one man without a penny in his pocket; another dressed in suits of newspaper only; another pushing a barrel all the way. When it was announced that others were going to attempt the journey in automobiles it might have been supposed that absurdity could go no further, even if it went so far. But on New Year's Eve yet another of these original sportsmen started out from Trafalgar Square to walk round the world; and the principal condition of his trial is that he shall wear an iron mask all the time and never reveal his identity until his return. Who would

choose hastily between such a fate and that of the prisoner of the Bastille? There is a bet, of course, on the subject; two "well-known American millionaires," an argument in a Pall Mall club and an intrepid Englishman. The nationality at least of the modern Man in the Iron Mask is known. Among other conditions are that he is to send from every town of any importance that he visits a signed document from the principal inhabitant and a written account of his journeys; he is to push a perambulator all the way; he is to find a wife before he turns up in Trafalgar Square again. Let us forbear to lay stress on the association of the last two conditions. But where is the woman who will risk her happiness upon the removal of that iron mask?

February 19.

RATS.

Mus rattus has few friends and he deserves none, for in contradistinction to the usual effect of history on blackened characters the march of time has only served to paint his in yet deeper colours. His destructiveness was proverbial even before the existence of the house that Jack built or the annals of Hamlyn achieved notoriety. Later research connects him not only in his masses with the spread of plague and trichinosis, but individually with the dissemination of typhoid fever, ptomaine poisoning and various other ailments. And here, indeed, even if we are impervious to the scare of a possible epidemic, we must be alive to the subtle danger of this poison-spreader stalking about amongst us. But if disease has no terrors for the strong-nerved resident, he will at least appreciate another sphere of activity attributable to the rat, that of arson; by nibbling the insulating material on crossing electric wires and so short-circuiting them, *mus rattus* has probably made himself liable times innumerable to be handed over to the native authorities for offences far too heinous to be dealt with adequately in the Mixed Court. The thought is sufficiently alarming to a community already overtaxed with a frequency of fires in its midst to make it pause to consider whether a campaign against rats ought not to be inaugurated in Shanghai on the lines of the recently formed National Society for the Extermination of Rats and other Vermin in England. An expert has decided that there are more rats in Great Britain than men, women and children; in other words, some forty millions, and that each rat costs the community a farthing a day for its board. A pair of rats, it must be remembered, may be blessed with 800 descendants at the end of twelve months. Assuredly in Shanghai, like the brains of the community, there are far more of them to the square inch than anywhere else, and unfortunately we cannot claim the exemption from plague that Great Britain does. Would it not be wise, therefore, to inaugurate a campaign against rats, as has been done ere now

in Germany, Japan and Denmark, before their presence leads to a serious outbreak of plague or some other disease?

NEW YORK TO PARIS.

While the intrepid automobilists of France, Germany, Italy, and America are actually upon their road from New York to Paris by way of Behring Straits and Siberia it may be of interest to glance at some details of their equipment. The wardrobe which will enable them to withstand a temperature of seventy or eighty degrees below zero has demanded much attention. Externally the chauffeur is wrapped in a three-fold coat of pure wool. Nothing of him is seen except his eyes. Inside this there will be garments of flannel and seal's intestines which are the *dernier cri* of the fashionable Arctic world; and next the skin a vest steeped in seal's oil, or better still the oil of the white bear which is declared to be the best of all protections in cold weather. Here is a hint for enterprising merchants against the time of the north wind in Shanghai. When bedtime comes each chauffeur will dispose himself for rest inside an air-tight and impermeable quilt made like a sack, and will draw the strings tight above his head. Enough air will filter through the folds of the orifice to prevent him from being suffocated; and only by this means will it be possible for him to undress at all in going to bed. When breakfast time comes round it is hoped that there will be steaks of seal, wolf and bear or, perhaps, a grilled white partridge, for every automobile carries a formidable armoury of sporting guns and rifles. But in the absence of fresh meat there is an abundant store of appetizing preserves. Quite an elaborate dinner may be set forth, and even the dessert is not forgotten; for what could be better than candle-grease sweetmeats? It is true that they would not be appreciated in milder climates. But the men who drive automobiles from New York to Paris by way of Behring Straits have strange tastes, and will acquire stranger yet before they win home again.

THE BED-SIDE MANNER.

We all remember the distinguished bed-side manner of Dr. Henry Jekyll, which would have been a fortune to to him if he had not taken to masquerading as Mr. Edward Hyde; and now, for the benefit of young practitioners, the "British Medical Journal" has been trying to analyse what constitutes the good bed-side manner which is admittedly invaluable to doctors. *Quot homines tot sententiae*; there must be visible adaptability, tact and sympathy. Some authorities believe in gentleness pushed almost to the point of servility. But this is *vieux jeu*; although the case is remembered of Sir Henry Hallford who bowed three times to a Prime Minister, stricken senseless with apoplexy, before venturing to lay finger on him. Jenner, on the other hand, maintained that a doctor

should convince the patient by his manner that his malady gave him no concern at all: yet it is well not to convince him too far. Professor Huchard of Paris brought to the sick bed a gift of wit and epigram which would have won him distinction in the most critical *salon*, but, we should imagine, must have been a little confusing to the patient. But vivacity of manner, carefully removed from facetiousness, is an undoubted asset. Sir Richard Quain of Manchester excelled in this quality. There is a story that he was visiting one patient in company with an assistant who was particularly grave of countenance. "For goodness' sake, my dear fellow, look happier", said Sir Richard, "or we shall be taken for the undertakers!"

February 20.

HERBERT SPENCER AND THE SUFFRAGETTES.

To bring the Spencerian philosophy to bear on the Suffragettes' campaign may seem at first a little like training a Woolwich Infant upon a bevy of *guats*. But apart from the determination of the Suffragettes which will not allow their opponents to forgo any artillery they may possess, the exceptional interest of the late Herbert Spencer's views on female suffrage, contained in a letter recently published in "The Times", would justify a reproduction of its main arguments. In his first book "Social Statics," Herbert Spencer expressed views which caused him to be regarded as favouring female suffrage, and when Mr. J. S. Mill was founding a society to promote that object, he wrote to Spencer asking him to join. In the present letter, dated August 1867, Spencer explains how and why he has modified his views, and cannot join with Mill. His attitude is summed up in one sentence: "I should advocate the extension of the suffrage to women as an ultimate measure; I do not approve of it as an immediate measure, or even as a measure to be shortly taken." And delving into the intricate argument of one philosopher to another we cannot see that the lapse of forty years has brought us any nearer that word "ultimate" than Herbert Spencer felt himself to be. All political liberties, he says, are simply a means to an end, "the unhindered exercise of faculties by each, limited only by the equal claims of others." Incidentally one may remark that the Suffragettes protest most that their part at present is all limitation and no exercise: but Mr. Spencer heeds them not. In his view "the giving of political power to woman would diminish liberty in two ways." Women are always on the side of authority: their influence would be to aid "all kinds of state administrations, the great mass of which are antagonistic to personal freedom." Again, women are even more swayed by immediate considerations than men; they have no faculty for seeing consequences; they would not appreciate "detrimental reactions that

would be entailed by legislative action." Once more personal liberty goes to the wall. The question of questions for Mr. Spencer is the limitation of the functions of State: when that is attained, and not before, it will be feasible to give women political power. In other words when Government shall have become needless because all men govern themselves; when the Member of Parliament ceases because none wish to talk; and when the vote becomes useless because there is nothing to vote about,—then may suffrage safely be entrusted to women. This Woolwich Infant is a powerful weapon. But the effect of his explosion is only partial after all. He has not destroyed the *guats*. He has merely disproved their right to buzz. Will they be convinced of their unrighteousness?

A PARISIAN SCANDAL IN "THE IG-LIF"

As "the Ig-lif" of Paris (*anglicè* high life) were filing out of the fashionable church of St. Pierre de Chaillot after the requiem Mass for the late Lady Stanley of Errington, of the noble family of Talleyrand-Périgord, a violent altercation broke out on the steps of the church between two gentlemen; one was Comte Boni de Castellane, divorced husband of Miss Anna Gould, the American millionairess; the other was Prince de Sagan. Of what precisely happened there is some doubt, but the upshot was that the Prince was removed with a cut head and two black eyes, while Comte Boni went off more or less tranquilly with his brother Comte Jean de Castellane, who had intervened to stop the fight. The incident is interesting for the sudden light that it throws on a divorce case over which Paris is still rent into two factions. Everybody has heard the stories of how Comte Boni de Castellane made the Gould millions fly in the days when the lady who owned them was still his wife. There were the shooting preserves at Marais, where sixteen hundred hens were kept at work hatching pheasants' eggs imported by express from abroad; and where whole brigades of keepers ranged the woods at night to keep off poachers. There were the millions of francs spent on the rebuilding of the Château de Marais and the further millions lavished on every guest of royalty or distinction who passed through the country. Since his divorce Comte Boni de Castellane has nothing to live on but his salary of a Deputy of the French Chamber. Yet he drops down quietly from the Pavillon d'Armenonville to a Bouillon Duval for his dinner, and from a huge stud of horses and motor-cars to a common *sapin* at 1 fr. 50. the course, with the utmost simplicity, and has earned much kudos for the brave way in which he bears ill-fortune. Some of his friends hope yet to patch up affairs between himself and his late wife. Suddenly Comte Boni de Castellane learns that his cousin, Prince de Sagan, is paying attentions to Mme. Anna Gould, who still has a large fortune owing to her careful marriage settlement, and that an engagement

may "be shortly expected." As a Catholic, Comte Boni must look upon his ex-wife as still his own wife. As a man of decent feeling, he could not endure the idea of being supplanted by Prince de Sagan who bears the worst of reputations. *Hinc illæ lacrimæ*; the soufflé outside St. Pierre de Chaillot and Prince de Sagan's broken head. But while this must be meat and drink to Comte Boni de Castellane will it promote that important reconciliation with the ex-Countess?

OUTPORTS, ETC.

PAOTINGFU.

From Our Own Correspondent.

February 3.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

The present Chinese New Year has been unique, so far as I remember, in its not having been preceded by one or more cash-shop failures. This fact should be put to the credit of the new copper coinage which, being so much lighter than the old cash, has quite driven out the paper bills whose over-issue is the usual cause of cash-shop failures. The depreciation of the new coins, however, has been so considerable that much hardship has resulted, and no reason is in sight why the new year should not repeat the story of the past one.

REDUCED OPIUM SMOKING.

I am convinced that the opium evil has been materially reduced in this city and adjacent districts. In the city the regular dens have all been closed, although in secret a few places do a much reduced business.

There are also ten places licensed to sell the drug for home consumption.

In outside market towns and district cities the same work has been done, but less thoroughly. It seems to be possible to square the police inversely according to the square of the distance of any place from the large officials. Again the growing use of the hypodermic syringe must be noticed. I have been told by a native physician that in his own town this method of injecting morphine costs the people no less than ten dollars per day; each treatment costing only a few coppers. Whether in this way the opium habit is spreading or not I cannot state. So much more of the strength of the drug is saved in this way that it is decidedly cheaper; but one would imagine that it is less attractive than the old method of inhaling.

SUGAR INDUSTRY.

We were favoured recently by a call from Mr. Frank N. Meyer, who is exploring for the Department of Agriculture of the United States. Mr. Meyer thinks that the North China plain is well adapted for cultivation of the sugar beet, but that there would be need of cheaper fuel than is at present found in most places before beet-growers could successfully compete with the sugarcane.

HONGKONG.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hongkong, February 7.

DR. SUN YAT-SEN.

There is growing restlessness among officials here in regard to the doings of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. He is known to be staying in Anam, and there are grave suspicions that from this centre he is very active in stirring up the discontented Chinese against the ruling Government. The Governor of Kuangsi, the province most open to an attack, telegraphed to Peking and requested that the Waiwupu instruct the French authorities to eject him from Anam. The Governor himself has left his yamen and has gone personally to inspect the defences of Kuangsi that are supposed to be open to an attack. There is indeed a suspicion that in the near future there may be trouble, and the mandarins have not forgotten that the terrible Taiping Rebellion began in the Kuangsi province. It is most difficult to get at revolutionists in that mountainous far-off province, and there may be, therefore, some grounds for this apprehension.

THE BOXER INDEMNITY.

With the closing of the year there has been the usual sweeping up of the floor of the treasury in Canton to raise the necessary funds for the repayment of the indemnity on the Boxer rising to Great Britain and Germany. The current payment amounted to twenty-five lacs of dollars. I see from the native papers that no less than four different sources have been laid under demand in order that this sum may be raised. The money was raised, however, and has been sent on to Peking. The land tax, the salt tax, the ordinary revenue, and rebates from the per onal salaries of the officials each according to its ability, contributed towards the general sum.

AUSTRALIA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sydney, December 31.

CHRISTMAS IN SYDNEY.

Sydney has been very busy this Christmas Season. The streets, the trams, and the shops have been crowded from morning to night. A record amount of business has been done. Some of the principal houses have never had such large sales at Christmas before.

There certainly has not been much poverty in evidence. Everyone appeared to have money to spend, and seemed anxious to get rid of it. I was talking a few days ago to one of the managers of a large business house in Sydney and he expressed astonishment at the amount of money working men were able to spend upon their children. One bought no less than five pounds worth of toys for his family. A black man gave two

pounds for a rocking horse! Just think of it!

THE LITHGOW IRON WORKS.

An interesting book might be written giving the history of Australian trade disputes, fortunes lost and gained amongst the mines, of desperate and heroic fights against misfortune and failure in carrying out commercial enterprises.

Amongst the latter the history of the Lithgow Iron Works would deserve a prominent place. Mr. W. Sandford came to Australia in 1883 as representative of the Engineering Company of John Lysaght Ltd., and helped to establish that company's wire netting works on the Paramatta River. Believing that there was a great future for the iron industry in Australia he early advised Mr. Lysaght to start works at Lithgow, pointing out what a splendid centre it might become with so much raw material for making iron and steel close at hand. Mr. Lysaght, however, did not care to run the risk. Mr. Sandford then resigned and securing a lease of the Mittagong works and a little later of the Eskbank or Lithgow works started business on his own account. He soon met with success and finding Lithgow the better centre gave up Mittagong and concentrated his energy upon the Iron works at the foot of the famous Zig-zag. In 1886 he took over the works with such plant as there was and some years later bought the work, estate, and colliery.

A sheet mill was opened in 1894 and for some seven years prior to that he had paid wages amounting to £92,866 and for railway freight £14,956. The first steel furnace was put up in 1900 and the first cast of steel was, I believe, made in Australia by Mr. Sandford's youngest son, Esk. The works developed rapidly. A thousand skilled hands found ample and remunerative employment, a Government contract to supply the State with pig iron for seven years was secured. Blast furnaces were erected, under the superintendence of a specially imported expert. Furnace and plant of the latest pattern were installed. Fine buildings devoted to the making of steel were opened with great éclat only a few months ago. People looked forward, and not without good reason, to Lithgow becoming the Birmingham of Australia. Then the tide began to turn. The able promoter of so much enterprise found ruin staring him in the face. The Government contract, the securing of which seemed to afford matter only for congratulation, proved to be the indirect cause of his downfall. He had the cost of excavating. He had to meet new duties on machinery and other things and he found his expenses nearly doubling his estimates. He had for instance to pay £7,000 duty on machinery, plant, bricks, which were free when his estimate was made. The Commercial Bank had come to his aid, but he was soon unable to meet his liabilities. Parliament was appealed to. In view of the national importance of the works the Premier, Mr.

Wade, made a telling speech proposing to advance £70,000 to Mr. Sandford. The Bank had, however, taken possession and refused to accept the terms offered by the Government. Fortunately one of the leading Australian engineering firms, namely that of G. & C. Hoskins, Ltd. expressed their willingness to take over the works, and having made satisfactory arrangements with the Bank, are entering into possession with as little delay as possible. All Mr. Sandford's liabilities have been accepted and the Government contract, with an extension of time, taken on and most of the old hands promised reemployment. Much to the satisfaction of the public generally and of the late Proprietor and Lithgow workers in particular, G. & C. Hoskins, Ltd. have generously recognized the splendid pioneer efforts of Mr. Sandford, by paying him the sum of £50,000, £10,000 in cash at once and ten yearly payments of £4,000 without interest. The works have already been closed down nearly a month and as this means a loss of about £1500 per week in wages alone it can be readily understood what a very serious loss it has been to the little town of Lithgow.

It is confidently hoped that the legal formalities will be completed by New Year's Day and that the works will soon be in full swing once more.

THE MORRISON CENTENARY.

We have had in Australia quite a re-echo of the great Centenary Meetings held in China. On November 25 the Sydney Centenary Meetings were opened in the Pitt Street Congregational Church at 10.30 a.m. Principal Harper D.D. presided. Papers were read by the Rev. Joseph King, Mr. G. R. Walsh, Mr. Robert Powell. In the afternoon the Rev. W. G. Doherty of the C.I.M., the Rev. T. Howard Smith and Mr. Thomas Hogger spoke on various aspects of the missions to the Chinese. At an evening meeting among the speakers were the Archbishop of Sydney, Rev. A. M. Johnson, Home Sec. of the L. M. S., Dr. Geo. Brown, Dr. Fordyce, and the Rev. W. J. Doherty.

INDIA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tinnevely, January 20.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.

A profound sensation was created in Calcutta, at the news at Christmas time of the attempted assassination of Mr. B. C. Allen L. C. S., Magistrate of Dacca. It will be remembered that Dacca is the capital of the new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam. Mr. Allen had left the station on his way to Bombay, as he was going on furlough, and was shot on the Goalundo platform whilst awaiting the train, at about nine o'clock at night on December 23. The mysterious part of the affair is that the shots were fired on a platform crowded with passengers, and yet the assassins escaped; two native

officials, who were talking to Mr. Allen at the time he was shot, are the only ones who did anything; one of them helped to carry him into the train, the other pursued the assailants, but being fired at, he paused and the men escaped in the darkness. It is said there are three of them, a man and two lads, like students.

Mrs. Allen was at Bankipur awaiting her husband's arrival; he was to join here and take her on to Bombay. No motive for the outrage is at present forthcoming, nor have any arrests been made. The newspapers are generally of opinion that politics are at the bottom of the affair. The Government speedily offered a reward of Rs. 5,000 for the arrest of the criminals; this has since been raised, but as yet with no result. Mr. Allen lies in a serious condition. The excuses offered for the police are weak. At first it was supposed that none were present: it is now said they were at Goalundo station that night as usual, but as the night was a foggy one, the police mistook the sound of the two pistol shots fired in rapid successions for fog signals.

THE LUDHIANA COLLISION.

Further gloom fell on the festive season on rumours spreading of a terrible railway accident on the North Western Railway, near Ludhiana. The new fiat has gone forth that railway officials are not to give information about accidents to anxious inquirers, no matter how urgent may be their demands. All are referred to the Railway Board; anxious friends forward their inquiries and await the clearing up of affairs by a speedy reply from the source of knowledge. On this occasion the oracle was silent for nearly a week before its utterances were published. In the mean time the agony of various persons with travelling friends can be better imagined than described. The reality, twenty persons dead and seven wounded, is bad enough, but came as a relief after the rumours, for the magnitude of which it is assumed the railway authorities are responsible. In any case they remained uncontradicted too long.

PEARLS AND THE FINANCIAL CRISIS.

American finance has curiously affected the trade of Bombay. It is here that the pearls of the past season are finally collected by the jewel merchants, and for the most part are sent to Paris and are purchased there chiefly by American millionaires. The millionaires have no cash to spare for such frivolities just now; as it is, pearls in Paris are selling at a third of the usual price, and jewellers have cancelled all their orders for further consignments from Bombay. The pearls and mother-of-pearl of the past year were not too plentiful and were considered specially good, hence the pearl fishing companies received good prices, but the middlemen are now left lamenting.

FURTHER AGITATION.

The whole of the educated Indian world is shaken to its foundations, because the Indian National Congress

is dead. If the Congress is necessary it will doubtless arise again from its ashes, renewed like the phoenix. The notorious Lala Lajpat Rai having refused definitely to stand for the Presidentship, the Chairman proposed Dr. Behari Ghose, a distinguished lawyer and patriot. Surenindra Nath Bannerji, formerly a great favourite and crowned king of Bengal by his political admirers, rose to second the resolution, but was not permitted to proceed. The meeting became more and more riotous, the delegates from Nagpur side, in especial, incited, it is supposed, by the notorious Dr. Zilak, became unmanageable, and no other course was open but to suspend the Congress. There seems no dislike for the proposed President, Dr. Ghose, who is highly respected: the extremists have simply refused to listen to anybody tolerating, or permitting the presence of their opponents, the moderates. A split is the natural result, and there seems little element of cohesion in the resulting chaos.

MEETINGS.

THE LAOU KUNG MOW COTTON S. AND W. CO., LD.

The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the Laou Kung Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., was held at No. 22 Kiangse Road on Tuesday, January 18. Mr. F. Anderson presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. C. Pearce, C. Michelau, J. M. Young and Chung Liang-yu (Directors), Mr. Crawford D. Kerr (Secretary), Messrs. A. Murphine, R. H. Parker, H. J. Clark, Ping Er, F. W. Sutterle, W. C. Murray, J. H. Teesdale, R. H. Moorhead, P. Crighton and J. Spunt. The number of shares represented was 4,869.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said:—The Report and Accounts have been in your hands for some time and with your permission we will take them as read. The Board regrets that the accounts are not more favourable, but as you are probably all aware last year was one of great and general depression of trade in China and cotton spinning was no exception to the general rule. This was partly owing to the high exchange and partly owing to bad trade. The general level of prices obtained for yarn during the year was a low one, whilst on the other hand owing to the poor cotton crop the average price of cotton was high. Owing to these circumstances it was with difficulty during the greater part of the year that we could make two ends meet and get our own money back; indeed up to the end of September the result of our working showed a small debit balance. Towards the end of the year, however, trade improved somewhat and we were able to come out at the end of the year with

a small balance on the right side—about Tls. 6,700. This balance would have been about double had it not been for the death of an old constituent of the mill who had dealt with us many years, but whose estate unfortunately proved to be insolvent on his death and the yarn which he bought had to be resold at a loss, and this materially reduced the credit balance at the end of the year. The local business for yarn throughout the year was rather disappointing, indeed it has been disappointing for several years back—ever since the Russo-Japanese War. Formerly the bulk of our yarn was sold locally for the manufacture of native goods which were exported to Manchuria, but for some time back trade in that market has been under a cloud and we are still waiting patiently in the hope that the impediments which have been made will be removed and that trade will partially at least return to its former channels. Under the circumstances it has been necessary for us to push the sale of yarn in other markets where we came into direct competition with Indian and Japanese yarn. In that direct competition we are unfavourably situated inasmuch as we have to pay heavy likin taxation on our raw material and in addition excise on our manufactured yarn, whereas Indian and American cotton is procurable by our competitors in India and Japan duty free. It is really astonishing how very short-sighted the authorities in China are to the advantages to be gained from fostering industrial development. The duty which we pay on our yarn added to the excise on cotton is a very much heavier charge than our competitors have to pay in their import duty. We have again made representations on this subject to the Imperial Maritime Customs and also to the local authorities, but so far all our appeals have been in vain and we can only hope that as time goes on the authorities will take a more enlightened view of the question and when they do so local industry will benefit by the change. We have not asked in these representations for entire freedom from taxation, but what we have asked, and what I think was a reasonable thing to ask, was that the taxation—likin taxation—paid on the raw material should be taken into consideration in giving us a rebate for the taxation of yarn. If the authorities would meet us to that extent it would materially assist cotton spinning in China.

Since the date of our last accounts the unissued shares of the mill have been placed on the market and subscribed for at par and the additional capital thereby obtained has materially strengthened the financial condition of the mill. If you pass the report and accounts now in your hands the depreciation recommended therein will be, with what has been written off before, the full depreciation from the starting of the mill until the present time, and all this depreciation has been paid for out of earnings. During the year the re-flooring of the cording-room has been completed; we have re-floored it with

solid concrete. It has been a work of considerable difficulty and has taken three years to carry out. The total expenditure involved was Tls. 11,000 and that amount has been entirely defrayed out of the amount set aside for repairs and renewals, so that it has been paid for out of the Working Account. Our machinery is in excellent order and the production of the mill was never in better order than at the present time. Although trade opened quietly during the first part of the year we have been able to sell our production ahead to the end of March at prices which are more satisfactory than those which obtained last year. From the small balance available after writing off depreciation it must be clear to you that the Directors in recommending payment of no dividend—and we as general managers regret that fact as part of our remuneration for our management of the mill under our agreement is part of the profits—are following a wise course. The mill has been working for something like eleven years and the total average amount that we have received under that heading is the modest sum of Tls. 1,500 a year. That, I think, is not excessive remuneration for the considerable amount of hard work which we have to do in the management of the company. The terms of our agreement are that we are not allowed to charge commission until after the depreciation has been provided for. Throughout these eleven years the total amount of depreciation which has been provided out of earnings has reached the substantial sum of Tls. 350,000. I have no further remarks to make, gentlemen, but if any one has any question to ask I shall be glad to answer to the best of my ability.

There being no questions the following resolutions were put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—

That the Report and Accounts as presented be passed.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J. M. Young,

That Mr. Michelau and Mr. Chang Liang-yu be re-appointed Directors of the Company.—Proposed by Mr. J. M. Young, seconded by Mr. H. J. Clark.

That Mr. Geo. R. Wingrove be re-elected as the Company's auditor for the current year.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. A. Murphine.

That the next General Meeting be held during either the month of February or March 1909.—Proposed by Mr. C. Michelau, seconded by Mr. R. H. Parker.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

THE SHANGHAI PULP AND PAPER CO., LD.

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders in this company was held at No. 4 Quai du Yangkingpang yesterday at 4 p.m. Mr. C. E. Roach

presided and there were also present Messrs. Chu Pao-san, V. Meyer, R. S. F. McBain, A. Fabre, E. S. Little, M. Chamond, J. W. Burtwell, T. Webster, J. R. Patterson, and J. J. Shellow.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen—In submitting the annual report and accounts for the past year I propose to adopt the usual course of taking them as read. Detailed statements of accounts for the year are on the table for your inspection, but before asking you to pass the same I wish to make a few general remarks. During the year the mill has been running regularly day and night, and I am pleased to say continues to be kept in perfect order. During the year under review we have experienced very severe competition; the very high exchange allowed paper to come from Japan and the European Continent at very low prices. The Imperial Chinese Paper Mill of this Port, with a plant similar to ours, started manufacturing early in July and offered their product at considerably below cost. We are informed that they closed down on December 31 for an indefinite period. The demand for wrapping paper is largely dependent upon the piece-goods trade, the paper being used to a great extent for wrapping piece-goods, and as every one is aware the piece-goods trade has been very stagnant all the year; the result has caused us to accumulate a large stock of paper.

It is only natural that your Directors feel quite concerned about the showing for 1907, but hope that this state of affairs may only be of a temporary nature, and that, with the revival of trade generally we may again show the same results we have hitherto done.

We cannot make good trade where a general stagnation of business exists. Everything possible has been done by all concerned, and the report presented is the best that could be done. Before formally moving the adoption of the report I should be pleased to answer any questions.

In reply to Mr. Webster the chairman said that the mill was temporarily shut down this month, as some slight repairs were being done.

No other questions were asked and the following propositions were carried unanimously:—

Proposed by Mr. C. E. Roach, seconded by Mr. Chu Pao-san that the reports and accounts as presented be passed.

Proposed by Mr. E. S. Little, seconded by Mr. A. Chamond, that this Meeting of Shareholders confirms the election of Messrs. V. Meyer and J. R. Patterson as members of the Board of Directors.

Proposed by Mr. A. Fabre, seconded by Mr. A. Chamond that Mr. G. Willeumier be re-elected Auditor of the Company for 1908.

Proposed by Mr. C. E. Roach seconded by Mr. Chu Pao-san that taking into consideration the present unfavourable conditions the Directors' fees be reduced for the year 1908 from Tls. 600 to Tls. 300 per annum.

The Chairman thanked the shareholders for their attendance and the meeting ended.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT	
For year ending December 31, 1907.	
Dr.	Tls.
Plant Repairs	7,108.65
Tls....	7,108.65
Cr.	Tls.
Balance from 1906 account	
Tls. 3,354.82	
Less Bonus paid Tls. 1,000.00	2,354.82
Working Account 1907	1,138.11
Balance	3,615.72
Tls....	7,108.65

BALANCE SHEET December 31, 1907.	
ASSETS. (Cents Omitted.)	
Dr.	Tls.
Mill Plant	364,909
Straw Mill Plant	22,342
Mill Dwellings	19,855
New Finishing Room	5,620
New Paper Machine account	2,677
Accounts Receivable	97,959
Mill Stores	37,246
Pulp Stock	6,817
Paper Stock	252,979
Steam Launch	3,500
Unexpired Fire Insurance	
Premia	2,787
Furniture, Fixtures and	
Stationery	2,400
Balance Profit and Loss	
Account	3,615
Tls....	822,511

LIABILITIES.	
Cr.	Tls.
Capital, authorized 6,000	
shares @ Tls. 100.00	
each = Tls. 600,000.00,	
subscribed 4,557 shares	
@ Tls. 100.00 each =	
Tls. 455,700.00	455,700
Reserve Account	45,000
Accounts Payable	56,506
Russo-Chinese Bank	265,304
Tls.....	822,511

Shanghai, January, 29, 1908.

V. MEYER
J. R. PATTERSON
CHU PAO-SAN

C. E. ROACH,
Managing Director.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above accounts, comparing them with the Company's books and vouchers and bank pass-book, and have found them all in order and correct.

G. WILLEUMIER,
Auditor.

HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL.

A well-attended meeting was held in the Church Room on Wednesday afternoon, when a review of the past four years work was read by the Dean, and resolutions of congratulation and appreciation, and of hearty welcome, were passed to the retiring and coming Bishops of

Mid-China. Sir Haviland de Saumarez took the Chair, and called upon the Rev. A. J. Walker to read his report.

The Rev. A. J. Walker began with a brief history of the English Church in Shanghai. In 1847 an important meeting was held at H. M. Consulate, when it was decided to establish a Church for the use of Europeans and Americans on the present site, which was provided by Mr. T. C. Beale. The Church, when built, was to be held in trust by six vestrymen, and the services were always to be in accordance with the ceremonies of the Church of England. The following year the property was handed over to eight trustees, representing the British community solely. Bishop Boone laid the foundation stone of the first Church in 1847. In 1850 it was nearly wrecked by a typhoon, and in 1860 it was decided to build the present building. The foundation stone was laid with masonic rights on May 16, 1866. In 1875 the Church was offered to Bishop Russell as his Cathedral, and it had been known as the Cathedral ever since. The foundation stone of the tower was laid by Bishop Moule in 1891. The names of the Revs. Lowder and Hobson, its early chaplains, were still perpetuated in China, while Dean Butcher and the late Mr. Hodges were remembered by many present residents. The Dean after stating that he did not have much faith in religious statistics as a rule, quoted a few figures to show the growth of communicants. In 1876 there were forty-five communicants on Easter day; in 1895, 100; last Easter, 259. But in 1881 the collection on Christmas Day was \$1,150 and in 1883 it amounted to \$1,165, showing that in the early days the congregation was very liberal. The community had increased so largely during the past four years, though he doubted whether the increase in the British population had been proportionately great, that they must expect larger attendances at the services. He could not say whether the morning and evening services had been better attended during the past four years, as there was divergence of opinion on the point, but there had been a large increase in the number of acts of Communion. In 1904 there were 1,732 acts; last year there were 2,709, leaving St. Andrew's Church out of reckoning altogether. The Dean then referred briefly to the improvements in the choir, owing to the efforts of the present organist; the advent of the boys' surplined choir; the foundation of the Cathedral School, the Children's services, and gave statistics of the baptisms and weddings that had taken place in the Cathedral during the past four years. He deplored the fact that there was no congregational singing in the Cathedral except at special services when the building was entirely full, and considered that there would not be proper congregational singing until the Cathedral was full every Sunday. Then he turned to a forecast of the future, in which he saw the Cathedral much as it is now, with better choir accommodation, and the finest organ in the Far East, with

larger congregations, brought almost to the doors by electric trams, with congregational singing and pew rents abolished. He saw a larger St. Andrew's Church, and a chapel built by some wealthy resident in Bubbling Well, where Sunday and children's services could be held. Finally he saw six clergy attached to the work: a Senior Chaplain, and an Assistant Chaplain, devoting most of his time to the young men; a master for the school; a deacon, who would act as secretary to the Chaplain and enable him to visit the hospitals daily; and two clergy for St. Andrew's. (Applause).

The Chairman then briefly wished the Dean and Mrs. Walker a pleasant holiday, and expressed the appreciation of the congregation at the result of the first four years of his labour here. (Loud applause).

Mr. H. E. Hobson next rose to propose the following resolution to the Rt. Rev. Bishop Moule: that this meeting, representing the Church of England in Shanghai, tenders to the Rt. Rev. G. E. Moule, D.D., now retiring from the office of Bishop in Mid-China, its hearty congratulations on the completion of fifty years' work in China, and its warm appreciation of his faithful ministry as Bishop in the Church. In doing so he said that he had probably known the Bishop longer than anyone else present, having first met him when he came up from Ningpo in 1861 owing to the siege of the place by the rebels. The Bishop and Mrs. Moule had spent their life for the Chinese, and he thought that when the Bishop came up to Shanghai he felt that he was being drawn away from his real work.

Mr. Whittall, who seconded the resolution, spoke as one who could not claim a personal acquaintance with the Bishop, but who was only one of a host of Churchmen in Shanghai who had admired and revered him from the distance. It was seventeen years since he had first heard the Bishop preach, and who had not been the better for hearing him? He trusted that one of the Bishop's crowning joys would be the knowledge that he had earned the admiration and reverence of his fellow-men of all classes and creeds. They were glad and thankful that such a man as their Bishop had been permitted to live and labour so long, and that they had come within the sphere of his influence. And they were glad and thankful that this grand old man, who had borne the burden and heat of such a long day was able to retire and seek such well earned rest. (Applause).

The Dean then stated that a suggestion had been made to him that the congregation should present Bishop and Mrs. Moule with two comfortable arm-chairs.

The Chairman suggested that subscriptions should be limited to \$1 in order to allow the chairs to convey as many good wishes as possible. He then turned to the next resolution, with the remark that Mr. Hobson had had the advantage over him because he knew his Bishop. (Laughter). He suggested that the congregation could not show

its welcome to the new Bishop more fitly than by adopting the Dean's suggestion and promising \$1,500 per annum for the work of the Diocese. He was sure Bishop Molony was going to be a success, and though the resolution he proposed read: that this meeting representing the Church of England in Shanghai tenders to the Rt. Rev. Molony, D.D., Bishop in Mid-China, a hearty welcome to the port of Shanghai with an assurance of its cordial support; he felt sure he might extend its scope and say that the whole community of every denomination would welcome the new Bishop. (Applause).

The resolution was seconded by Mr. A. D. Brent, who expressed a wish that under the new Bishop the Dean's forecast might become an accomplished fact.

The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

ST. ANDREW'S MISSION.

The Annual Meeting of Subscribers to St. Andrew's (Missions to Seamen) was then held. The Rev. A. J. Walker took the Chair, and read the Committee's report. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed, and the Chaplain, the Rev. H. M. Trickett, then read his report. Mr. W. F. Inglis, as Hon. Treasurer, read an epitome of the accounts, and the report and accounts, on the motion of Mr. A. Fleet, seconded by Mr. J. Valentine, were adopted.

The committee for the current year was then elected, and consists of the Rev. A. J. Walker (Chairman), Messrs. W. F. Inglis (Hon. Treas.), E. W. Hornell, S. Barton, A. Rose, Capt. Whittle, Dr. Ivy, the Rev. R. G. Winning, G. Woodhead (Hon. Sec.) and J. Valentine.

The Chaplain announced that he had been informed the preceding day by a gentleman whose name he did not mention, that he would present a piano for the use of the Institute.

The meeting then terminated.

REPORT.

POLYTECHNIC LIBRARY AND READING ROOMS.

REPORT FOR 1907.

1.—The Library has been kept open daily from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the numbers of visitors has ranged from seven or eight to fifteen or twenty. Over \$1,300 have been spent in the purchase of books and periodicals for the Library during the year.

A catalogue has been prepared after much painstaking labour by the librarian Mr. Dzi Tsu-ding and his assistant, giving the titles of the books and the number of volumes. This catalogue shows that there are about fifty thousand volumes in the library, covering fairly well the general field of literature in Chinese, embracing Commentaries on the Classics, Poets, Essayists, Histories, Biography, Cyclopaedias, by China's most famous authors, together with many more modern works on Western

knowledge, such as Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geography, History, International Law, Government, Political Economy, etc. Altogether, a fairly good start has been made for a Chinese Library, and we may reasonably hope to see this nucleus ultimately grow into such an institution as will be of wide-spread and lasting value to the Chinese community of Shanghai.

2.—A series of public lectures has been given every Thursday evening during the spring and autumn months. The attendance at these lectures has ranged from thirty or forty to a hundred or more. The most of these lectures have been delivered by myself. But I have had valuable assistance from the Revs. D. MacGillivray and J. Darroch, Taotai Shun Tun-ho, Mr. P. Y. Sy, of the Anglo-Chinese College, and the Rev. Yui Koh-tsung. The subjects of the lectures have been on current affairs and on science and general knowledge.

3.—Subjects for prize essays on current affairs and mathematics have been set monthly, as in previous years. The responses to these invitations to write competitive essays have ranged in number from thirty or forty to more than 150, according to the nature of the subjects given out. The total amount of money devoted to prizes for the year was \$242. Besides the monthly subjects set by the Library, subjects were set, at our solicitation, by his Honour Jui, Taotai of Shanghai, for the spring term; by His Honour Yui, Taotai of Ningpo, for the summer term; by his Honour Liang, Taotai of Tientsin, for the autumn term; and by His Honour Ho, Taotai of Chefoo, for the winter term. In addition to these, subjects were set once during the year, by H. E. Tuan Fang, Viceroy of Nanking and once by H. E. Yang, Viceroy of Chihli. The amounts given for prizes by the above-named officials have ranged from \$120 to nearly \$400 for each term. The subjects set by them covered quite a wide field, relating to both ancient and modern times and embracing government affairs, commerce, mathematics, western science and general knowledge. It would be interesting to write them all out in full, but the limits of this report preclude the possibility of doing so here.

4.—The sub-committee appointed at the last annual meeting to see what could be done towards opening a school for railway and mining engineering, inserted advertisements in the native papers calling for students. But the number of applicants was so small that the committee did not feel justified in opening the school.

Inquiries in regard to teachers, also, made it evident that there would be difficulty in securing qualified instructors for such a school.

5.—The following is a summary of receipts and expenditure for the year. The lease held by Liang Nioh expires at China New Year and a new lease has been entered to run for ten years at the annual rate of fifteen hundred taels.

Dr.	
Balance from last year	\$4,233.28
Liang Nioh Kee, ground rent...	472.45
King Song Kee, ditto	450.00
Woo Wei Kee, ditto	520.00
Wei Yah Kee, ditto	1,076.00
Dzi Kish Kee, ditto	800.00
Printing Office, house rent....	1,085.00
Interest	127.84—\$8,764.57
Cr.	
Books and periodicals	1,303.85
Salaries, Librarian and assistant..	644.00
Agent, to collect rents etc.....	240.00
Servants	216.00
Taxes	668.98
Repairs	102.10
Prizes for essays	242.00
Insurance	113.48
Gas and water ..	102.23
Lectures	100.00
Sundries	256.98
Fixed Deposit ..	2,500.00
	6,553.62
Balance in hand	\$2,210.95
A. P. PARKER, Hon. Director.	

SPORT.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

THE "SKOTTOWE" CUP COMPETITION:
SHANGHAI FOOTBALL CLUB V.
"A" COMPANY, S.V.C.

On Saturday afternoon the Shanghai Football Club and "A" Company, S.V.C., met in the final round of the "Skottowe" Cup Competition on the ground of the S. M. Police, which had for this occasion been provided with a stout rope barrier to prevent the spectators from encroaching on the field of play. The game proved to be one of the most interesting and closely contested in the history of this annual competition and was witnessed by at least 1,000 spectators. On paper, the Shanghai Football Club had the stronger team and for this reason, probably, as well as the fact that the Shanghai Football Club has been all-powerful in Association Football for many years, the sympathy of those present lay with the "A" Company's team.

In the first half the Football Club defended the Loongfei goal and played with the wind in their favour. Immediately after the start the Club rushed the ball to the Volunteers' goal, but the defending backs cleared well and "A" Company took up the attack. Good combination between Scotson and Gray on the left wing carried the ball to the Football Club's twenty-five, but Davies and Ollerdesen were quite equal to the occasion and by judicious kicking transferred play to the opposite end of the field, where Leckie, from a pass

by Gray, just missed the net. During the remainder of the first half each side attacked in turn and every attack was eventually repulsed by the backs of the defending side. Billings was constantly conspicuous for his brilliant defence in goal. At half-time neither side had scored.

On resuming, the Shanghai Football Club carried the ball well into the Volunteers' twenty-five and for some time kept up the pressure, but their shooting was wild and the defence was good. Billings made several splendid clearances and the full backs tackled well. From time to time Scotson, Cooper and Gray came away with the ball down the left side of the field, but lost control when nearing the goal, and Davies and Ollerdesen were generally successful in clearing, without calling upon the goalkeeper. At one period the Football Club were conceded several corners in succession, but found Billings invincible. After a prolonged invasion of the Volunteers' twenty-five by the Club forwards, Scotson and Cooper led a determined attack on the Club's goal, which lacked effect through defective shooting. On many occasions a couple of forwards seemed to have the goal at their mercy, but shot either too widely or too high; and this remark applies to the forwards on both sides. So the game continued until within two minutes of the call of time, when Scotson came down the left centre and with a pretty back kick transferred to Gray. The latter unselfishly put the ball across to Cooper, who out-maneuvred the opposing full-back and scored with a swift, low shot, which entered the net in the extreme right-hand corner. There was little time left in which the Football Club could equalize, and almost immediately afterwards the whistle was sounded for time, "A" Company winning the Cup by one goal to nil, for the second year in succession.

From the fact that the sympathy of the majority of the spectators was with "A" Company, the statement that the Shanghai Football Club had much the better of the game will doubtless be questioned; but it is nevertheless true. The shooting was most erratic on both sides, but on recalling the game to mind, all who witnessed it will remember that Billings, "A" Company's custodian, was very frequently called upon to fist out or kick out well-directed shots. It was only due to his brilliance in goal that the Shanghai Football Club failed to find the net on several occasions. On the other hand, Welch, the S. F. C. goal-keeper, was rarely in difficulty, for the reason that the shots by "A" Company's forwards were from long range and generally high or wide. "A" Company's success was mainly due to their excellent staying power; for the winning goal was secured as a result of fast forward work when the majority of the remainder of the field were exhausted.

Billings was again the saviour of his side. He always seemed to anticipate the direction of the shots of the opposing forwards and in addition to using

splendid judgement, made the best use of his stature when fisting out shots. He made only one mistake and that was in running out to meet a shot, which fortunately for his side hit the cross-bar and rebounded. Needham and Jeavons tackled and combined well, and the former was the stronger of the pair. Their kicking lacked strength, but was accurate, and they fed the forwards well. Nicolls got through a tremendous amount of work at centre-half and his tackling was one of the main features of the game. In the same line, Weeks and Gowland worked hard, but were not especially prominent. The forward line of the Volunteers combined splendidly. Scotson was *facile princeps* and did the work of three men. Nominally at inside left, he was here, there and everywhere—ever ready to take a pass in any position, always ready to transfer when one of his confrères was in a better position to shoot, and always encouraging his men to better efforts. He, Cooper and Gray combined splendidly and the goal scored by "A" Company resulted from one of the best pieces of combination and one of the prettiest shots that has been seen on a Shanghai football field for many years. Marti and McMichael played good football, but suffered by comparison.

Of the Shanghai Football Club, three men call for particular mention—Davies, Macphail and Leckie. Davies was the best full-back on the field. He tackled splendidly, kicked judiciously and always kept his head. Macphail played a sound game throughout at right half-back and was particularly strong in tackling, especially as he was opposed by the strongest section of the Volunteers' attack. Leckie played a splendid individual game at centre forward and he it was who gave Billings most trouble. His pace and excellent footwork were frequently prominent, but he lacked support from the other forwards. The brothers Harris made several good rushes down the left wing, but centred wildly. Chadwick, at inside right, played a sterling forward game, but lacked the pace necessary for combination with Leckie. Drew played well at half-back, but Tyack, though tackling well, was slow. Ollerdesen, at full back, played a good defensive game, but his kicking was not as powerful as usual. Welch, in goal, did all that was required of him, except that he failed to stop the shot that scored the winning goal, but this was a shot that would have severely tested the ability of any goalkeeper in the English League.

It is worthy of mention that this is the first year since 1902 in which the Shanghai Football Club has failed to capture a trophy in Cup competitions.

THE "BENTLEY" CUP. SHANGHAI PUBLIC SCHOOL v. THOMAS HANBURY SCHOOL.

This game, played on the New Hongkew Recreation ground on Saturday morning, resulted in a very easy victory for the Public School by eight goals to nil. The Public School has

now registered two victories in the Competition, the Cathedral School has won one game and lost one, and the Thomas Hanbury School has been twice defeated.

ST. ANDREW'S ATHLETIC CLUB v.

P. AND O. S. DELTA.

This match was played on the ground opposite the Widow's Monument on Saturday afternoon and a fairly even game resulted in a victory for the Mariners by three goals to two.

S. M. POLICE F. C., 2ND XI v. I. M.

CUSTOMS F. C.

The match between the above-mentioned Clubs, played on the ground of the Shanghai Cricket Club on Saturday afternoon, was splendidly contested throughout. In the first half the Customs team were slightly superior and at half-time led by one goal to nil. In the second half the Police played up more strongly and added two goals, but in the meantime the Customs Club scored another goal and the match resulted in a draw, each side having scored two goals.

SHANGHAI GOLF CLUB.

The following is the result of the monthly medals competition played for Sunday:—

"A" CLASS.			
		H'cap.	
F. B. Sinclair.....	95	0	84*
R. M. Smith	93	5	88
P. W. Mackintosh	98	9	89
"B" CLASS.			
B. P. Sheldon ...	95	25	70*
J. Davidson	103	30	73
R. W. Truman ...	103	25	78
O. Crewe Read ...	112	25	87
W. L. Gerrard ...	121	30	91
* Winners.			

SHOOTING.

"A" COMPANY, S. V. C.

THE MIH-HO LOONG RIFLES.

The competition for the January Monthly Cups took place on Saturday last at 6.30 a.m., with the following results:

"A" CLASS.	
Winner and highest scorer:	Cpl. A. E. Lockyer.
2nd win on first Cup, future handicapped 5 points.	
"B" CLASS.	
Winner and highest scorer:	L.-Cpl. G. A. Turner.
Winner of the Cup outright.	
"C" CLASS.	
This was declared "No competition" in accordance with the new rules for 1908. (Attendance: eleven men only.)	
Cpl. Lockyer and L.-Cpl. Turner also win the spoons in their respective classes.	

SHANGHAI VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

The monthly rifle competitions took place on Saturday afternoon. A strong N.E. breeze made the conditions unfavourable to good shooting. The ranges were 400 and 600 yards, Bisley targets and scoring. The following are the highest scores in each class:—

"A" CLASS.	400	600	Score.	H'cap.	Total.
Lieut. Davies ...	27	29	56	6	50
Bdr. Graham ...	28	28	56	—	56
Tptr. Jessel.....	33	23	56	3	53
Sgt. Shanstrom	29	26	55	4	51*

* Winner 1st time.

"B" CLASS.					
Gnr. Karlbeck.	30	23	53	3	50*
" Hawkins...	23	18	41	—	41
Bdr. Landers...	30	12	42	3	39
Gnr. McCubbin...	20	17	37	8	34

* Winner outright.

"C" CLASS.					
Gnr. Gandossi.	29	18	47	—	47*
Lieut. Canning	23	21	44	—	44
Bdr. Wilson...	23	17	40	—	40
Gnr. Nettle ...	26	14	40	—	40

* Winner of spoon.

ARTILLERY v. MAXIM CO.

A rifle match between teams picked from "B" Class in each of the above units was decided yesterday. The conditions were ten men a side, all to count, regimental targets and scoring, 300 and 500 yards (practices four and six of the Musketry Course). The match resulted in a win for the Maxim Co. by a margin of four points.

	300 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
MAXIM CO.			
Gnr. Little.....	22	25	47
Cpl. Moores	23	21	44
Gnr. Smith.....	19	24	43
" Brown	20	20	40
" Roberts	15	24	39
Cpl. MacCabe ...	20	19	39
Gnr. Griffin	19	19	38
" Allen	15	19	34
" Smith	13	19	32
" Hutchison ...	7	16	23
	173	206	379

ARTILLERY.			
Bdr. Landers.....	27	24	51
Gnr. Karlbeck ...	23	20	43
Sgt. Doijer.....	18	23	41
Gnr. McCubbin ...	20	20	40
Lieut. Canning ...	17	21	38
Gnr. Larsen	18	20	38
„ Nettle	15	21	36
„ Watson.....	16	20	36
„ Peake	9	20	29
Cpl. Kleffel	13	10	23
	176	199	375

BOXING.

London, February 11.

Burns, the holder of the World's Championship, defeated Jack Palmer of Newcastle at Wonderland on the 10th instant, in a contest for the Championship and a purse of £1,500.—"Hongkong Daily Press."

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

Saturday's Hunt was laid in what is known as the Upper Hongkew Country and Mr. Hickling, who was responsible for the line, is to be congratulated on a well-thought-out and well-laid run. The jumping was good, but

thin, there being an absence of really good, clean jumps. There was, however, one big jump, which frightened most of the field, and very few attempted it. The start and finish were announced to be near the Markham Road Station, but the word "near" seems rather elastic in paper hunting, as the finish was some distance away from the Station. Still, those spectators who went to see the Hunt had a good walk and saw an exciting finish, in which Mr. Laurence just got home in front of Mr. McEuen and scored his third victory of the season.

Mr. McEuen wins the heavy-weight prize and well deserves it, for he has had very hard luck in several previous hunts. It is impossible to give a description of the course, for the Hongkew country has even fewer landmarks than the Rubicon country, but the Hunt may be described as "enjoyable."

The card read as follows:—

- 1.—Mr. B. S. Laurence on Sandfly.
- 2.—" K. J. McEuen on Buckingham.
- 3.—" F. Souter on Timothy.
- 4.—" A. W. Olsen on Plebiscite.
- 5.—" S. H. McKean on The Successor.
- 6.—" W. R. Lemarchand on Marbles.

THE SCOTTISH CONCERT.

A full house, an excellent programme, and an appreciative audience, of whom a fair proportion came from the land of the heather, combined to make the Scottish Concert at the Lyceum on Friday night a great success. The programme was not a long one, and though each item had a Scottish flavour there was plenty of variety, and few of the songs passed without an encore. After an overture by the Filipino band a septette of gentlemen sang the glee "Scotland Yet". The same singers sang another glee later in the evening, and applause which greeted each effort showed that it was thoroughly appreciated. Mrs. McIntosh was the only other vocalist who figured twice on the programme. Her first contribution "Bonnie Sweet Bessie" elicited repeated demands for an encore, to which, however, Mrs. McIntosh did not respond. The second song, "Rotheray Ray" was rendered equally sweetly, and this time the singer had to bow to the demands of her audience and sing another short ditty. Mr. Lammert's "Border Ballad" was also applauded in a manner that would have justified a repetition, but he did not respond. The cornet solo—Fantasia Brillante on the air Auld Lang Syne—played by Mr. Redmond, gave him full scope with his instrument and he executed some exceedingly rapid passages with great skill, repeating them in obedience to the continuous demands for an encore. Mrs. Langlands quite captivated her audience with a charming rendering of "Jessie's Dream" and fully deserved the recall she received. A recitation by Mr. Corbett Smith, given in his best style, necessitated another, though neither of the pieces

selected was Scotch. Mr William Smith brought the house down with his "Keep on Doing it, Sandy O," which he sang in Highland costume. For an encore he sang another comic song, in which he introduced his "Scotch Bluebell" to the audience, amidst shrieks of laughter. The first part of the programme came to a close with a Reel, performed by four kilted Scots to the accompaniment of the skirl of the bagpipes. Even Mr. Bethune's wonderful staying powers as a piper were not equal to a repetition.

In the second part Mr. N. G. Maitland's melodious rendering of "Annie Laurie" was enthusiastically encored. Mrs. Duncan charmed the audience with "My Love is like a red, red Rose." Her voice is singularly pure and true in the upper register, and was shown to even greater advantage in "Comin' thro' the Rye." Mr. W. M. Stewart sang an old favourite. "The Bonnie, Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond". The indefatigable piper again put in an appearance for the Highland Fling, of which Mr. Cromarty gave a very creditable exhibition. Another comic song by Mr. Smith, followed by "Auld Lang Syne" brought an exceedingly enjoyable evening to a close.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE VAGARIES OF CLOCKS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Your leader of this morning is highly interesting from the point of view of the public welfare, especially on the eve of the inauguration of the tramways with their runs at fixed minutes. In Paris you may find in every *arrondissement* public clocks connected with a regulator and veiled by a shutter (losing their face) as soon as they do not show the correct time.

It will perhaps be a matter of interest to some of your readers, to know that one step at least has been taken already at Shanghai in the right direction. Funds were voted by the French Municipal Council, last year, and a Regulator, by the great clock-maker Dent, of London, has been received and was under observation for more than one month at the Sicauei Observatory. This 12 inch dial clock will be fixed near a window accessible to the public, in the new house that will soon be erected close by the tower now building on the Bund. By last mail, a secondary timekeeper was ordered at the same maker's; it is a *Sympathetic 10 inch dial*, which will beat he seconds in accord with the Regulator, by means of an electric current sent every second by the last one: thus the correct time will be kept, very exactly, probably at the French Police Station near the Chinese Bund. The electricians will say if it were not feasible to multiply such *Sympathetic dials* in Shanghai, in sympathy with your progressive Leader.

I am etc.,

CHRONOMETER.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—If the object of your otherwise very interesting leader on this subject be to arouse agitation here similar to that of Sir John Cockburn in London, I hardly think it will be successful. Even were Sir John Cockburn's strictures quite true regarding the inaccuracy of London's clocks, the article would seem to be somewhat misleading, especially to those who have not visited London either for many years or at all. Being a "Cockney" myself (i.e. having been born within the sound of Bow Bells, the chimes of which I heard as recently as October 25 last) I can speak with some confidence. If in London, I would challenge Sir John Cockburn to deny that in every principal street in the City, there is to be seen, in almost every clockmaker's window, a chronometer showing "Greenwich Mean Time": neither is it too much to hazard that not one in ten of the time pieces on leading warehouses, churches, clockmakers' and other shops are outside of one minute of correct time. There is "Big Ben" of Westminster—of which Dents, it's makers, are, I believe, under a contract never to allow it to vary more than two seconds of Greenwich time—absolutely reliable, and the clock of St. Paul's Cathedral equally accurate. St. Clement Dane's clock (to which your article refers) has been still now for a year or more for the simple reason that it is past repair, but Sir John should state that within a few yards of it is another Church clock which I remember was always fairly accurate (I was in business in that neighbourhood for six years) also a few more feet distant a still more reliable one is to be found in the Law Courts' Clock, an imposing instrument which can be seen half way down the Strand and Fleet Street. London in truth abounds in clocks all surprisingly accurate considering their number, not to speak of deflecting needles, balls which rise and fall at the hour and chronometers, it being the pride of all in the trade to supply to pedestrians gratis Greenwich Time for the spot. If, therefore, your readers are led to think that the World's greatest City is so imperfectly supplied they will find some consolation in the fact and refrain from agitating for any improvement here. (*sic* Ed.) The lack of information in Shanghai as to the time of day is a very great inconvenience and should be regarded as a serious defect. There should unquestionably be more public clocks—and reliable—for the erection of which there are innumerable positions available: the want of even such timepieces being much too obvious to need emphasizing.

I am, etc.,

A. E. LEGGE.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Most people will agree with your leader of to-day's date on the above subject. No doubt the changeableness of Shanghai weather has something to do with the want of

accuracy of most out-door clocks, but there is one in Nanking Road which may be depended upon, namely that outside Messrs. Ismer & Co's. This timekeeper has faithfully served the public for something like twenty years, and it is not affected by the weather, for it is regulated electrically by a standard clock inside the building, and it has, so far as I can remember, never failed in its duty except when stopped for repairs.

I am, etc.,

WILLIAM R. KAHLE.

February 14.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The statement you made this morning that ratepayers at the Annual Meeting will be given an opportunity of expressing their intention in regard to the opium dens in the Settlement is of great interest to many of your readers. It would, however, be of still greater interest if you could inform them whether the Council is making provision in their budget to do without the revenue derived from the licences, and whether they are going to bring forward a definite proposal as part of the official programme. If it is left to ratepayers to propound a scheme for closing the opium dens, will the Council's attitude be sympathetic or neutral?

I am etc.,

G. H. B.

POSTAGE TO WOOSUNG.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I shall feel extremely obliged if you will permit me through your columns to call the attention of advertisers and others to the fact that the postage to Woosung is two cents.

A large number of circulars reach me and for every one I have to pay two cents excess through people only putting one cent stamps on the envelopes.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am, etc.,

A WOOSUNG RESIDENT.

CRIMEAN VETERANS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The movement initiated at Home by the "Daily Telegraph," seconded by Lord Roberts and so munificently supported by H. M. the King, towards securing the relief of aged Crimean and Mutiny veterans from the ban of the workhouse and the miseries of old-age poverty is one which appeals to all men of British nationality right round the world and back again. Especially is this so in the case of those whose interests are bound up with the destinies of the Far East, and whose prosperity is the direct outcome of the valour of these old-time warriors, since thrown on the charity of their countrymen.

Into the policy which permits—or has permitted—of such an effort being left to private enterprise it is not necessary to enter. In this practical world we can only recognize facts, and the salient fact in this case is that much money will be required to afford these gallant men a modicum of comfort in their old age. The conscience of Englishmen in other parts of the world has been aroused, and contributions will doubtless soon be forthcoming from the overseas territories and outposts of the empire. Cannot Shanghai do something towards repaying the debt owing to those who not only secured the stability of the parent edifice, but ensured the building of her own structure on a firm foundation?

I am, etc.,

WALTER KIRTON,

Captain late Imperial Corps of Guides.
Shanghai, February 18.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

*By Telegraph from Peking.
Specially translated for the
"North-China Daily News."*

February 13.

Kao Ling-wei is appointed Commissioner of Education of Hupeh province.

February 14.

Peking is densely populated and whenever there is an increase in the value of goods, the poor are greatly affected. Recently the price of goods has been very much raised owing to the dearth of silver and the abundance of copper coins. In consequence of this, We hereby command the Ministry of Finance to pay Tls. 500,000, in silver, to the Governor of Peking, who is ordered to select either a government or private bank to purchase back copper coins with this sum in order to prevent any further increase in the price of silver, and at the same time to stop all the merchants in Peking from selling goods at an unreasonable price. The Ministry of Posts and Communications and the Superintendents of the Customs and Octroi of Peking are also commanded to prohibit the practice of bringing in large quantities of copper coins. Should any persons be found to have minted coins for circulation, they will be arrested and punished according to law through the Ministry of the Interior, or by the Viceroy of Chihli province, the Governor of Peking or the General Commandant of the Gendarmerie. When the price of silver comes to the normal standard, the said Governor of Peking shall refund the Ministry of Finance the sum of Tls. 500,000. Chen Pih, President of the Ministry of Posts and Communications, who has practical acquaintance with such matters, is ordered to co-operate with the said Governor of Peking in carrying out this measure and to act in such a way as to meet Our Wishes.

February 15.

(1) The Emperor will personally sacrifice at the Temples of Heaven and Earth on the 2nd day of the 2nd moon (March 4).

(2) Wu Chên, Lieutenant-General of the Bordered Red Mongol Banner Corps Organization, is appointed Lieutenant-General of the Bordered Blue Manchu Banner Corps Organization and his former post is given to Jui Fên.

(3) Decree in response to a memorial of Chao Erh-fên, Acting-Viceroy of Szechuan, commending some and cashiering others among a large number of officials of that province.

February 16.

Sun Tsêng-chih is appointed Commissioner of Education and Acting Provincial Treasurer of Anhui province.

February 17.

(1) Decree in response to a joint memorial from Hsu Shih-chang (Viceroy of the Three Eastern Provinces of Manchuria) and Tang Shao-yi (Governor of Fêngtien province), cashiering a number of civil and military officials of Fêngtien on the charge of incapacity and various misdemeanours.

(2) Wu Tung-bhia is appointed Commissioner of Education of Anhui province.

NOTES ON NATIVE AFFAIRS.

February 15.

THE TAIHU PIRATES.

It is reported that piracies on the Taihu lake have lately been frequent. A few days ago a boat loaded with rice was robbed. On account of the situation on the Lake, a number of merchants have made representations to the Governor of Soochow as the local authorities seem to be unable to cope with the pirates.

THE GOVERNOR OF HONAN.

Owing to serious indisposition, H.E. Liu Shao-nien, Governor of Honan, recently asked the Throne for permission to resign his post; but his application was not granted.

GENERAL CHIANG KUEI-TI.

We understand that Viceroy Tuan Fang has received a telegram from Peking to the effect that General Chiang Kuei-ti, who has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Yangtze in succession to the late General Hsia Hsin-yu, will leave Peking on the 22nd instant. It is reported that General Chiang will have his headquarters established in Anking, capital of Anhui.

ROBBERS IN CHEKIANG.

According to a telegram received here yesterday, Fêng Ju-kuei, Governor of Chêkiang, has received a report that over three hundred robbers, under the leadership of one Hsia Choh-ling, are plundering the country in the vicinity of Kashing. Stringent instructions have been issued to the Prefect of that prefecture making him

responsible for the suppression of the bandits and the capture of the leader.

A QUESTION OF THE FLAG.

Acting on instructions from Peking, Viceroy Chang Jên-chun, of Canton, has dispatched an official named Chang Ping-yuan to inquire whether all Chinese-owned launches in the West River and other rivers are flying the Dragon Flag.

A REVOLUTIONARY OUTBREAK.

A detachment of troops has, it is reported, been sent to the district of Shangsze, in Ku-n'ngsi province, where large numbers of anti-monarchists are causing considerable trouble.

February 17.

AN ECHO OF THE PIRACIES.

A Peking dispatch reports that an Imperial R-script in response to a denunciatory memorial from H. E. Tuan Fang, Viceroy of the Liang-kiang provinces, has been issued (through the Grand Council) ordering that Liu Kuan-tsai, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kiangsu, be degraded two steps for having allowed pirates to attack and plunder steam-launches on the Huangpu.

A NEW NAVAL COLLEGE.

We understand that Admiral Sah Chên-ping is engaging Chinese and foreign teachers at Shanghai and Chefoo for the proposed naval College which is to be established at the latter port in the near future. About seventy students, who are sons of the gentry and prominent merchants, have been enrolled at Shanghai. It is reported that they will be examined on the 17th instant, and those who have passed the examination will be sent to Chefoo.

ADDITIONAL RIVER PATROLS.

H. E. Jui Chêng, Provincial Treasurer-designate of Kiangsu and Head of the Police department for the preservation and enforcement of the laws of the Liangkiang and Chêkiang provinces, has requested the Director-General of the Kiangnan dockyard to build four light-draught gunboats for the rivers which are infested with pirates.

OPIUM MONOPOLY.

It is reported from Peking that the opium monopoly bureau for Fêngtien province (Manchuria) will shortly be opened and that the Central Government will appoint Yung Shu-ch'ang as Director of the bureau.

CHINESE CONSULS FOR BRITISH COLONIES.

Lord Li Ching-fang, Chinese Minister to the Court of St. James', has recommended Messrs. Yen Chü, Wu Kuan-kien and Huang Yung-liang to the Peking Government for the posts of Consuls-General for Melbourne, New Zealand and South Africa respectively.

February 19.

THE PROTECTION OF MISSIONARIES.

It is reported from Nanking that owing to the activity of robbers, salt smugglers and other insurgents in Kiangsu province, Viceroy Tuan Fang

has instructed all the Taotais, Prefects and District Magistrates of the Liang-kuang provinces to make provision for the protection of the lives and property of all foreign missionaries.

THE YUNKUEI VICEROY.

A Peking dispatch states that H.E. Hsi Liang will probably be recalled to Peking and given a seat in the Metropolitan Government; and H.E. Chao Erh-sên, Acting Viceroy of Szechuan, will be appointed to take his place as Viceroy of the Yunkuei province.

THE TATSU MARU.

It is reported that, in spite of the demand of the Japanese Consul at Canton for the release of the steamer Tatsu Maru, H. E. Viceroy Chang Jên-chün has instructed the Commissioner of the Imperial Maritime Customs of Canton to confiscate the vessel, according to the Customs Regulations laid down for such cases.

RUSSIANS IN ILI

Chang Kêng, Tartar General of Ili (Mongolia) has written to the Waiwupu stating that a number of Russians have been hunting in that territory, that disputes between the natives and these foreigners have been frequent, and that the Russian Minister in Peking should be approached on the subject, in order to avoid any disturbance on the part of the natives whose hostility is inevitable.

February 20.

SALT SMUGGLERS IN SOOCHOW.

It is reported that a fight, lasting several hours, took place on the 13th instant between the Government troops under Colonel Hsu Pu-chên and about 700 salt smugglers, who were armed with modern rifles, at a place called Tienfanhu (in the vicinity of Soochow). Eight smugglers are reported to be killed or wounded.

ROBBERS AT POOTUNG.

His Honour M. T. Liang, the Shanghai Taotai, having received a report from the Magistrate of Pootung to the effect that robbers have, of late, been frequent there, has requested the Commandant of the Forces at Woosung to dispatch a company of troops to preserve order.

H. E. YUAN SHU-HSUN,

ex-Taotai of Shanghai, has been appointed Acting Junior Councillor of the Waiwupu by an Imperial Rescript issued through the Chunchich'u (Grand Council).

REPORTED OFFICIAL CHANGES.

It is reported from Peking that H.E. Yang Shih-chi, who was Special Commissioner to the South Pacific Islands last year, is about to be appointed Governor of Shantung in place of Wu Ting-pin, who will probably be transferred to Peking.

HIS HONOUR M. T. LIANG,

who left on the 11th instant for Nanking to pay his New Year congratulations to the Viceroy, returned here on Tuesday last.

THE CAPITAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, February 10.

THE EMPRESS AND THE I.M.C.

With reference to the honours conferred upon Sir Robert Hart and Sir Robert Bredon by Imperial Edict in view of the former's departure on furlough to Europe, I learn that in neither case was any rank specially asked for in the memorial, but that the honours were conferred upon the recipients by special command of the Empress Dowager after consultation with Prince Ching and H.E. Yuan Shih-kai. At first Her Majesty would not grant the Inspector-General his leave until late this year. Upon this the Grand Councillors of State urged the number of years that Sir Robert Hart has been in China and that Sir R. E. Bredon should be capable of carrying on his duties during the Inspector-General's absence. The Empress Dowager, therefore, sanctioned the memorial.

LIKIN TAXES.

Na Tung, Manchu President of the Waiwupu and new Controller-General of the Shuiwuchü, has been personally instructed by H. M. the Empress-Dowager to take advice upon the possible abolition of the likin according to the Mackay Treaty of 1902. Duke Tsai Tsê, President of the Tuchiupu (Ministry of Finance) is in favour of the proposal. There is some talk of making the change this year.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S POLICY.

H. E. Yuan Shih-kai still plays an important part in Chinese Government affairs and has more control of China's intercourse with the Powers than any of his colleagues. It is not surprising, however, to learn that H.E. Yuan is perpetually between two fires; on the one side his two senior but incompetent Manchu colleagues; on the other, (as for instance in the Chêkiang railway loan and the West River questions) the people who accuse him of being too Pro-foreign.

The policy of H.E. Yuan is gradually to reorganize the internal Governments in Peking and in the various Provinces, and to promote friendship with the leading countries that have great commercial interests in China. The Tientsin-Pukow railway agreement was an illustration of the progress of China's foreign relations. As a fact, H.E. Yuan has now been impeached by some troublesome censors for his alleged pro-foreign ideas in connexion with the Soo Hang-Ning railway loan dispute, but I am glad to say that these absurd memorials have either been shelved or rejected by the Empress-Dowager, who is still on his side.

THE MINISTRY OF WAR.

Tieh Liang is still indisposed and in view of the importance of his duties in the Luchunpu (Ministry of War), the Throne intends to appoint General Ying Chang, (formerly Chinese Minister to Ger-

many) to be acting President. General Ying was educated in Europe and is now Junior Vice-President of the same Ministry.

FIRES.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

Captain Grayrigge, who resided at No. 8 Yuen Ming Yuen Road was awakened at 4.30 a.m. on Saturday last by hearing a noise which he thought was the sound of burglars breaking into the premises. He went down the stairs, but had not reached the ground floor when he saw flames beginning to burst through from the offices of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. which were situated on the ground floor of the adjoining premises. From the position of the fire Captain Grayrigge could see that the stairway would be alight in a few minutes, and quickly realizing the immediate danger to the other members of his household he rushed upstairs and awakened Mrs. Grayrigge and Miss Willis, a guest.

Two of Captain Grayrigge's children were asleep in an adjoining room; Captain Grayrigge took one, Miss Willis the other, and followed by Mrs. Grayrigge they hurried downstairs.

Only a few minutes had elapsed after the discovery of the fire, but the house was then full of smoke and they had only just reached the ground floor when a partition gave way and the stairs became enveloped in flames.

Several attempts were made to save property, but the fire was too fierce. It appears that a native constable on duty in the street saw the flames at about the time that Captain Grayrigge awoke, and the watchman on the tower, seeing the smoke, sounded the alarm then. The Brigade responded with the customary alacrity and in a few minutes many streams of water were being turned on to the fire. It burned very fiercely, however, and an hour's hard work was necessary before the outbreak was subdued. The fire is said to have started in a sample room downstairs and four Chinese were asleep near by. No explanation can yet be given for the outbreak.

From the lower offices all Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co's valuable books were saved; the auxiliary books, however, were destroyed. The building and the contents were both insured, the latter by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., as agents for companies that they represent. Luckily their new premises, No. 6 Jinkee Road, had just been completed and, therefore, Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. were able to enter the new offices without delay. The manner in which the Fire Brigade controlled this dangerous outbreak was worthy of the highest praise.

THE STEAMER GLAMORGANSHIRE.

At about the same hour, 4.30 a.m., on Sunday morning a fire broke out on board the steamer Glamorganshire among the cargo in No. 6 hold. It had only made small headway when the officer on watch discovered it, and those on board were able to control it without

assistance. The Customs float attended, but was not put into use. It is understood that very little damage was done.

TIENDONG ROAD.

At 1.35 a.m. on Sunday a fire broke out in a pork shop numbered 662-3 Tiendong Road. The flames had a good hold on the premises and there was no hope of saving them when the Fire Brigade arrived. A strong attempt was made by the firemen to prevent the flames from spreading to adjoining property but Nos. 1559 and 1560 Woosung Road also became involved. These premises, however, were only partially destroyed. Nos. 662-3 Tiendong were totally destroyed, and Nos. 660-1 damaged by fire and water. Nos. 1559 and 1560 Woosung Road were damaged by fire. Nos. 662-3 Tiendong Road were insured for Tls. 2,000. Nos. 660-1 for Tls. 500 and Nos. 1559-60 Woosung Road for Tls. 2,000, all in Chinese Companies. The outbreak occurred in a cook house situated under the stairs at the pork shop.

4 THE BUND.

At 8.40 p.m. on Saturday a native constable discovered that a fire had broken out in a room occupied by Mr. W. Funder on the third floor of No. 4 The Bund. The fire is said to have been caused through a defective fire-grate and a Chinese houseboy has been arrested for carelessness. It appears that the front grating of the fire-place in Mr. Funder's room was loose and liable to give way at any moment. The houseboy was aware of this fact, but without calling his master's attention to the defect, made up a large fire in the grate on Saturday evening and after locking the door of the room, left the premises. After his departure the front grate of the fire place fell out and the wooden flooring of the room was quickly ablaze. Fortunately the outbreak was soon discovered and was extinguished by the Brigade before the damage became extensive.

DEATH OF MR. E. DE BAVIER.

The news of the tragic death of Mr. E. de Bavier, head of the firm of Messrs. E. Bavier & Co. on Monday came as a great shock to the business community of Shanghai amongst whom his keen intellect and attractive personality had made for him many warm friends. Business was proceeding as usual when, about 11.30 a.m., Mr. de Bavier's No. 1 boy dashed into the office and announced that his master had shot himself. Messrs. E. M. Berthel and H. J. Burkhardt at once entered Mr. de Bavier's private house, which is attached to the office premises at 44 Szechuen Road, and made their way to Mr. de Bavier's bedroom. Mr. Berthel, who was the first to enter, found Mr. Bavier lying in bed on his back, with a revolver in his right hand. Although the pulse was then beating Mr. Bavier died almost immediately.

The deceased was transacting some business about a quarter of an hour

before the boy heard the report of the discharge of a revolver. The servant states that he heard two shots fired. Later in the day the Coroner's officer, in Mr. G. W. King's presence, found two bullets, one immediately behind the bed and the second on the floor in the far corner of the room. The first shot must have gone through the left hand top corner of the pillow, as it was pierced and blackened, while the second entered the left side of deceased's mouth and passed out through the top of the head.

About six weeks ago Mr. de Bavier asked Mr. Berthel, one of the principal members of his staff, to lend him a revolver, saying that he was going on a houseboat trip with a friend and they might do some shooting at targets they would put up for amusement. Mr. Berthel loaned his chief a Colt army service revolver and twenty cartridges, telling him that if he wanted to get more cartridges he should purchase them. When Mr. de Bavier asked for the revolver Mr. Berthel looked at him and Mr. de Bavier remarked:—"What are you looking at me for; do you think I want to kill myself?" They both laughed and the weapon was handed over. The houseboat trip did not take place and as Mr. de Bavier was unwell the revolver was not returned. About 10.30 a.m. on Monday Mr. Berthel went to Mr. de Bavier's room and he was then in bed. They talked on business matters. The revolver case was then in the room.

Ernest de Bavier was a Swiss residing in Shanghai under British protection. He was a well-known and highly-respected business man in Shanghai and the Far East generally. He first came to China about forty years ago and was a partner in the firm of Bavier, Meyer and Co., exporters of silk, hides, goat skins &c. After spending about ten years in the East Mr. de Bavier went to Europe and he started a business house in Lyons in conjunction with his brother who had a business in Yokohama. In 1888 or 1890 Mr. de Bavier returned to China and continued to direct the business of Bavier, Meyer and Co. In 1896 the firm was styled E. Bavier and Co. and deceased was sole partner up to the date of his death. Mr. de Bavier made frequent trips to Europe in recent years, spending much time at German watering places; only last October he returned to Shanghai after a holiday of seven months in Europe. For some years he had been suffering from kidney trouble and Dr. von Schwab was his medical attendant in Shanghai. He had been confined to his bed for the past two or three days, but was frequently consulted on business matters and his actions were perfectly natural even within an hour of his death, although he was very depressed. Heavy pecuniary losses, it is to be feared, were the immediate cause of his sad end. The recent failure of several silk houses at Lyons had seriously embarrassed his firm, while large investments in hides had proved an additional incubus.

The funeral took place at the Bubbling Well Road Cemetery at

5 p.m. on Wednesday, and was attended by a large number of his friends, including the staff of his firm. Many beautiful wreaths covered the coffin. The Rev. C. E. Darwent conducted the service. Mr. G. Gardner had superintended the funeral arrangements and Mr. H. Burkhardt and Mr. E. M. Berthel were the chief mourners. After the service the body was cremated.

THE MAORI KING AND THE BALTIC FLEET.

The exploits of the steamer Maori King have attracted considerable attention in these waters. Many pages of her log would make interesting reading, and particularly those dealing with her voyages during the Russo-Japanese war. She was built at Sunderland in 1890, is of 3,807 tons gross, and is fitted with electric light and refrigerating machinery. With her recent history we cannot deal, as at the present moment an action is pending against her in H. M. Supreme Court here, and she is lying in the Arsenal Reach, looking idle and unkempt, and awaiting the issue of the proceedings which are to be heard shortly. We have in our possession a diary kept on board of her, when, as the *Esperance*, she accompanied that portion of the Baltic fleet that sailed round the Cape, with the object of supplying the Russian warships with frozen meat and other stores. Many pages of this record are devoted to purely private matters, such as anyone making a similar trip for the first time would jot down. But pervading the entries there is an interesting narrative of her voyage to Madagascar. Rather than follow the diary verbatim, we shall endeavour to extract that narrative from the entries it contains.

"TWO FOOT LIST TO PORT."

The *Esperance* was purchased on behalf of a Russian firm in 1904 through M. Collet a Frenchman, for the purpose mentioned above. She left Barry Dock under the French flag on October 24 of that year, and arrived off Vigo on the 29th. As she approached that port, after cruising about in the vicinity throughout the preceding night, she was met with instructions not to enter, but to await further orders outside. During the day two officers came off from the flagship *Suvaroff* to ascertain what stores the *Esperance* had on board, and also to take delivery of a quantity of specie she was carrying. Rumour had it then that the Russian fleet had been detained by the Spanish authorities for not leaving within twenty-four hours, and some excitement was caused on board by the sight of five British warships cruising in the neighbourhood. They were probably watching the movements of the fleet in consequence of the Dogger Bank outrage. The *Esperance* at this time had a bad list to

port; it was discovered that someone had placed boards across a portion of the bunkers, so that while to outward appearances they were full, in reality there was hardly any coal in them. In order to remedy this, the coal carried on deck was shovelled down into the bunkers. To make matters worse a quantity of water was discovered in the bilge, and the engineers, for some inexplicable reason, were unable to pump it out.

Late in the afternoon of October 30 a Spanish tug brought instructions from the Russian Admiral to sail for Tangier, whither the cruisers had already gone and the battleships would follow. The anchor was weighed at 5 a.m. on the 31st, and the *Esperance* sailed in good weather, having lost most of her list by filling two ballast tanks. Cape St. Vincent was passed on November 1, and the Straits of Gibraltar were in sight the following morning. The *Esperance* anchored off Tangier at noon on November 2. She had to obtain a launch to transact her business, and eventually one was procured at the outrageous rate of £7 per diem. At Tangier the Russian vessels were supplied with a quantity of stores, and on November 5 the *Esperance* set sail for Dakar in Senegal. On the way she again developed a bad list to starboard, the cause of which could not be ascertained. It should be mentioned that before leaving Tangier an anchor and chain were lost and a member of the crew deserted in one of the ship's boats. The *Esperance* reached Dakar in advance of the fleet, which arrived in the same evening and saluted the fort there with 21 guns on November 11. More stores were supplied there, and the ship was thoroughly cleaned up. She left for an unknown destination, which afterwards proved to be Gabun, at 7.30 p.m. on November 15. At midnight on November 16 the steering gear broke down, and the vessel had to lay to for an hour for repairs. The following morning there was another stoppage, owing to a heated bearing. The refrigerating machinery also went wrong and two Russian engineers had to be borrowed from the repairing ship *Kamschatka* to put it right. On November 19 the circulating pump broke down, necessitating another short halt. November 25 saw the *Esperance* anchored at the mouth of the Gabun river. The Russian squadron anchored about twenty-five miles below Libreville, in order, it was said, to be outside French territorial waters.

Leaving Gabun on November 30 the *Esperance* shaped her course for Great Fish Bay, in Angola, almost on the boundary of Damara Land. She arrived off Angra Pequena in German S. W. Africa on December 9. At this place, which consists of a lighthouse and about four houses, the fleet arrived the following day; the port probably being selected because it was not in telegraphic communication with the rest of the world. A number of German colliers met the warships here, but owing to bad weather several days elapsed before the Russians could be coaled.

A DOG WITH A BAD NAME.

The *Esperance's* next port was Durban, whither she sailed on December 15. There more stores were to be picked up before she rejoined the fleet at Madagascar. When she reached Durban on December 21 the Governor of Natal telegraphed instructions forbidding her to take on more than 300 of the 1,000 tons of coal that had been ordered. The shipment of stores and vegetables was forbidden, and it was only with great difficulty that sufficient for the needs of the ship itself were taken on board. The *Esperance* was well-known at Durban, as she had lain there for two years as a store-ship for frozen meat during the South African war. She was ordered to quit the port by 4 p.m. on December 24, and did so, leaving behind tons of provisions that had been accumulated for shipment. The crew had caused considerable trouble during her stay, and ten of the seamen had to be kept in gaol until she was ready to sail. Worse trouble was to follow. On December 30 the refrigerating machinery broke down altogether. It was impossible to repair it, and half of the meat on board went bad almost immediately. St Marie (Madagascar) was reached on January 1, 1905, and two days later the Chief Engineer of the Russian fleet came on board to inspect the refrigerating machinery. Four men were sent from the *Kamschatka* with instructions to take the plant to pieces. By this time all the ducks, chickens and pheasants on board had been lost, and only the meat in the lower hold remained good. At 6 a.m. on January 3 the fleet, accompanied by the *Esperance*, moved a few miles up the coast to a more sheltered spot. Taking advantage of the ship's misfortunes, the black crew became very troublesome as soon as Madagascar was reached. They refused to work unless they were given wine and roast, instead of boiled, beef and extra pay. On January 7 the *Esperance* put into Antongil Bay on the East Coast, carrying on board a Russian officer who had to dispatch some important telegrams and convey instructions to the German colliers to proceed to Nossi Bé and await the fleet. Considerable difficulty was experienced in finding the telegraph office. By this time the refrigerating machinery had been repaired, but it again broke down, and the expert in charge of it sent in his resignation, stating that it was impossible to run the plant with the men placed at his disposal. A stock of live poultry was procured at Antongil Bay, where the *Esperance* first heard the news of the fall of Port Arthur. As only two of the German colliers had put in an appearance before she sailed for Nossi Bé, letters of instructions to the remainder were left with the Governor.

The voyage to Nossi Bé was not the most pleasant part of the trip. By this time the meat below had gone quite bad, and the smell was indescribable. Quantities of it were thrown overboard en route. At 10 a.m. on January 11 the *Esperance* reached

Nossi Bé, and found most of the fleet there. Several of the warships were taking live cattle on board. The crew again gave trouble here, refusing to provision the Russian fleet for fear of capture by the Japanese. A visit to some of the battleships showed that the officers were living in luxury. Another desperate effort to repair the refrigerating machinery was made at Majunga, where a French official came aboard and said that if the meat were bad the ship must leave at once. After inspecting it he allowed her two days' grace. Difficulty with the boilers nearly led to further detention, but eventually the *Esperance*, in response to an urgent message from the Russian Admiral, rejoined the fleet at Nossi Bé, with a new and incompetent crew, on January 21. Such meat as was fit to eat was delivered to the Russians by day, and at night the *Esperance* steamed out into the open sea and threw the bad meat overboard. The smell on board steadily grew worse, and these night trips became part of the routine during the ship's stay at Nossi Bé.

A GAP IN THE RECORDS.

The Russian fleet here at this time consisted of seven battleships, five cruisers, three auxiliary cruisers, and seven torpedo boats. On January 27 it went out to sea for manoeuvres. Russian sailors were sent on board the *Esperance* one night to help to empty the No. 1 hold of its reeking cargo. The shore of the island became strewn with pieces of bad meat, and a complaint was made against the steamer's captain for not going out further to sea to discharge it. The last lot of meat was got rid of on February 1, and four days later the *Esperance* was again sent to Majunga with some Russian officers who had to dispatch telegrams, purchase stores etc. She returned to Nossi Bé with the Administrator of Majunga on February 10. Another trip was made to the same place a few days later to buy flour, rice and other stores for the fleet. March 4 saw the *Esperance* back at Nossi Bé. The Russian Admiral now refused to allow the *Esperance* to accompany the fleet any further owing to the state of her machinery. Her owners' representatives, therefore, left her to await the arrival of another steamer that was on her way out from the same firm. Visits to Hellville, the town on the island of Nossi Bé, account for an entry in the diary that the town is rightly named. References to the *Esperance* now become few and far between, and would cease altogether, but for a mishap that occurred to her successor. On March 15, 1905, the steamer *Regina* (ex Roslin Castle) steamed into Nossi Bé. She had been fitted out at Tilbury, after being rushed round from Southampton, and before she left England it was rumoured that she was destined for the Russian fleet, with provisions. The Baltic Fleet left Nossi Bé at 2 p.m. on March 16. Its departure resulted in an extraordinary fall in the prices at the café at Hellville. Beer, which during its stay had been sold at Frs. 4 per bottle,

could now be obtained at Frs. 2. On March 22 the *Regina* sailed for Majunga, and thence for Mozambique on the 23, intending to coal there and overtake the Russian warships at Saigon. As she neared Mozambique, however, she ran fast aground. Repeated efforts to get her off failed. Her cargo was discharged into lighters, and great caution was required to prevent the Mozambique authorities suspecting that the vessel had anything to do with the Baltic fleet. On March 28 the water had risen so high that the engine room fires were extinguished. The *Regina* settled down two days later, and though attempts were made to save her they were fruitless. Her cargo was transferred to the *Esperance*, and the writer of the diary went ashore and put up at the German Consulate. On April 25 he left Mozambique, bound for Zanzibar, en route to Bombay and China. Here the diary ends. The *Esperance* took what stores were saved from the *Regina* and went to Saigon. Later on she came to Shanghai, still under the French flag. Here the Captain and what was left of the French crew, left her, Captain Boutellier returning to France by a M. M. boat. If her troubles compare with those of the vessels of the Baltic fleet is it any wonder that Admiral Togo scored such a decisive victory?

THE REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT OF THE SOUTH.

By Our Hongkong Correspondent.

It cannot be without interest to any dweller in the Far East to watch the countenance, and to feel the pulse of the awakening Chinese Empire. In order to do this effectively, many physicians must be at work, with hand on pulse and watch in hand. Whilst the West may be yet lethargic, the East may be full of life, throbbing with a growing energy; whilst the North is yet swathed in bands as a mummy, the South may be stretching its limbs, and preparing for a long leap. Movements, in an empire like this, that may ultimately impart energy to the whole body, need not necessarily begin at the heart; they may start at an extremity, and swiftly change the whole empire. It is wise, therefore, to watch all disturbances that may appear on the surface, for undoubtedly they will, sooner or later, all count. The people of the South have always been noted for their turbulent character, and determined attitude, when they have become convinced that they have suffered wrong; they have also been tenacious in their purpose to free themselves from any incubus which they have regarded as unjust. Observers, therefore, will watch with increasing interest the rising spirit of independence that is now asserting itself, and clamouring for recognition.

AN APPEAL TO THE NATION.

On the occasion of the Chinese New Year, naturally, with the people like the Chinese, a hearty greeting was expected from the editors of the papers to the people. This greeting has been offered without hesitation and without reserve. The greeting is significant. In a word it is: "Chinese, rouse yourselves, exert your strength, and claim for yourselves a share in the government of the country, as is enjoyed by the powerful nations of the West." One of the most influential papers of Canton has published several leaders in succession, of which this is the burden. Moreover, the editor explains clearly the position, and argues the possibility of reaching it, if all parties will but unite and assert their power. The writer is obviously well acquainted with the history of other nations, and explains clearly enough the steps by which each nation in turn has struggled upwards to the shining tableland, and points out the safe way to reach this much longed-for position. There is no doubt that it fascinates many minds. The one need of all Governments is money. The source of this supply is the people. In the West the people have closed their purses, until the concessions demanded have been granted, and in this way, ultimately, the control of affairs has fallen into the people's hands. There is a special reference to the recent history of Russia. The Russian people though long coerced, and suppressed, have, within the last two or three years, determined that they will have a Duma, and they have secured it. By what methods? The time-honoured and only effective ones. They have practically coerced the Government. The students in the colleges throughout the Empire refused to continue their studies. The workmen's organizations from North to South organized strikes, which dislocated all business. The employees and technically skilled artisans in such public utilities as electric lighting concerns refused to touch their work, and important cities were, therefore, wrapped in the darkness of a northern night. It is noticeable that no reference is made to the many assassinations perpetrated by the Nihilists and the anarchists, and, apparently, the leaders of the modern movement would exclude these at present from the ken of their readers. The picture is accurately sketched in its general outline, and there is little exaggeration that can be condemned.

THE NEW ORDER INDEED.

Another noticeable characteristic of this New Year's greeting is the appeal of the young men of the south. It is pointed out that the burden of the coming struggle must be borne and the brunt of the battle met by young men—the educated and enlightened youth of the present generation. The men who twenty years ago, cherished hopes of a coming renovation, are now growing old, and already grey hairs warn them that the heyday of their strength is passing, if

it has not already gone. Little more can be expected from them. They can guide; they can counsel; they can encourage and enhearten the youth, but upon the shoulders of the latter must fall the burden, and they must bear it, and bear it bravely. This is a noteworthy concession, and cannot be allowed to pass without emphasis. As everybody knows, the Chinese almost apotheosize age. The son, whilst the father lives, can hardly call the air of heaven that he breathes his own. He must obey and reverence even until the end. Here is struck a totally different note, a note as new as it is astonishing, for by their own admittance the thoughtful educated people of south China have placed themselves side by side with the nations of the West, among which the way is always open to strong and competent youth; and by which, indeed in many ways, young men are encouraged to put forth energies, both of body and mind. When the writer touches the ways and means by which something practical may be attempted he finds encouragement in the recent efforts of the people to assert their power and demand their rights.

PIRATES AND THE NAVY.

Without going further afield for examples, though several facts are passed under review, it will suffice here to refer to the action of the British in policing the West River. It is pointed out that the snow storm of telegrams from the several mercantile and other guilds, that blocked all other business in the Imperial palace, and in the Provincial yamêns, compelled the officials to hesitate before they, after their wont, dawdled and procrastinated. In view of the accumulated evidence of such widespread perturbed and angry feelings, it would have been exceedingly dangerous for the officials to vacillate in purpose and hesitate in action. What was done in this regard could be and should be attempted again, and in this way the voice of the people would effectively be heard in council-chambers of the mighty, and at no distant date. Real and substantial power would be secured, and firmly held. The one thing above others that the Chinese Government hankers after to-day is a navy. China can never be a power worthy of a name, until, like other nations, she has a powerful navy which shall fly the dragon flag, and rest on the bosom of her own harbours. Whence can come this much coveted navy? From the pockets of the people. But, until more power is conceded, and wider privileges granted let them keep their hands resolutely in their pockets, and refuse absolutely to let the money be taken from them for this purpose. On the other hand, if the Government will concede more freedom to the people, and allow them certain privileges in the government of the country, then let them arise as one man and find the money for a new navy, which all conceive to be essential.

OMINOUS SIGNS.

Such in a nutshell is the gist of the appeal. It is well and powerfully put.

Moreover, one cannot but notice that in all recent deliverances, whilst there is no sycophantic pandering to the officials who rule, and, whilst indeed the latter may, by reading between the lines, see clearly that they are regarded with no affection and scant respect, there is a distinct toning down in the language used. Either of necessity or from policy a distinct change of attitude is discernable here, and a change for the better. It is without doubt ominous of the changes that are coming, that such a New Year's greeting is offered by the more respectable and thoughtful section of the native press to its readers. China's rulers cannot but sit restless and apprehensive in their ancient and wormeaten chairs. The suspicion that quantities of arms are surreptitiously imported into China; the knowledge that Sun Yat-sen and his admirers are at work in Anam; the actual revolution that is going on in Kuangsi; the determined attitude of the business section of the people in the recent West River affair; and, lastly, the ominous New Year's greeting of the press to its readers, with its call to the young men to rise and demand liberty—these are an ominous index to a movement that is existent, that is powerful, and that, at any hour, may burst all bounds in pursuit of its rights, without thought of the consequences, or fear of the results.

INDIANS IN THE TRANSVAAL.

FEELING IN ENGLAND.

The Registration Act, writes our London Correspondent on January 3, has not found a single whole-hearted defender among the organs of public opinion in this country, though the opposition to it assumes various forms and degrees. Unhappily the attitude adopted towards it is coloured in too many instances by party feeling. Thus the "Westminster Gazette," which when the Liberal Party was in opposition was among the sturdiest champions of the rights of our Indian fellow subjects and the principles of liberty, finds itself constrained not merely to defend the action of His Majesty's Ministers in advising the King to assent to the Registration Act, but also to offer excuses for the action of General Botha's Administration. On the other hand the "Daily Telegraph" would have us believe that if only Mr. Chamberlain had been still at the Colonial Office his marvellous powers of persuasion would have kept the Transvaal Government in the right path and so avoided all the difficulties. "The Times," however, has nobly maintained its reputation. That journal admits that both parties in the Transvaal must share the blame of the present dangerous situation; and it speaks out to the Colonies with a frankness which the "Westminster" visits with a reproof which comes very strangely from such a quarter.

OURTING THE MAN OF COLOUR.

The particular warning which has provoked this reproof is one addressed

to Australia. "The Colonies" says "The Times", "that most proudly proclaim their determination to be white countries depend absolutely upon the protection of the mother country to remain white. Without that protection how long could Australia, for example, exclude the Japanese? Not for six months after the Japanese made up their minds that settling ground in Australia were worth an expedition. Since we are ultimately responsible for any high-handed action that Australia may take, and since we are expected to shield Australia from the natural consequences, we have a right to do something more than utter feeble verbal protests." This is a question which is of less urgent importance than that of our Indian fellow-subjects in the Transvaal, but it is nevertheless growing very serious. If less than six million white men in British North America attempt to exclude all coloured people from nearly four million square miles of territory, and four or five million more claim a similar right in regard to some three million square miles in Australia, we can hardly blame the Asiatics if they rise up in their millions against the annoyance of the white man. The Transvaal question is, however, of more immediate importance, as it is already having a serious effect upon the trouble which has broken out in India.

MORE ENGLISH NOVELS THROUGH FRENCH EYES.

DOWN WITH THE "CONVENANCES."

In closing the article which we devoted last December to M. de Wyzewa's reflexions in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* on modern English novels, we joined him in congratulating English novelists on the restrictions imposed on them by *la pudibonderie anglaise*. But before the *Revue* of December 15 was published, M. Wyzewa had read further,—and fared worse: for here we find him beginning his second and concluding article with the complaint that "the reign of the *convenances* in the English novel is decidedly done with." Twelve years ago he detected the advent of a new type, *le roman sexualiste*, and the new type impressed itself in big letters on many pages hitherto unsullied. To-day the rage for naturalism has abated, thanks to the returning popularity of Dickens, says M. de Wyzewa. Yet the century-old supremacy of the *convenances* is none the less overthrown; and among the 150 current novels which our critic has studied he can point to a round twenty, the authors of which have had but one object, to be "shocking." This is "the fleshly school" of fiction; and M. de Wyzewa kindly spares us the details. One example only he quotes, a cynical study of profligacy in a country village. To indicate its authorship there was nothing but a surname preceded by the letter M., "and," says the critic, "I

pictured to myself the author as a clubman of age and experience, diverting himself by outraging his countrymen's sense of decency. I was deceived. Only the other day, in glancing over an illustrated paper, I came upon a portrait of this intrepid writer: it was an amiable young girl, with curly hair, smiling, dreamy, a little gold cross hung round her neck; and the initial before the surname signifies Margaret!"

THE REIGN OF CRIME.

Dashing away the tear which cannot be checked at this affecting thought, M. de Wyzewa turns hopefully to those whose writing indicates that if iconoclasm exists, it is by no means the order of the day. Here he pauses to reflect on the influence of R. L. Stevenson for the formation of a new school. Love, whether it be the sacred or the profane, has no place in the dream of these strange imaginations, but to create "giants of seductive depravity, magnificent scoundrels who unite with their rascality, and even in the midst of most criminal acts, a delicacy of feeling and mental attitude which compels us to admit them gentlemen." Instinctively we recall the *Master of Ballantrae*, *Northmour of The Parillon on the Links*, (though, perhaps, he scarcely comes into the category since he was undoubtedly in love, after his fashion, with *Clara Huddleston*), *Herrick, Davis, Mr. "Whisk"* (nothing of the gentleman in that fellow!) of *The Ebb Tide*. Such types are peculiar to the English novel and, in M. de Wyzewa's eyes, they constitute one of the most curious phenomena in all the history of literature. Mr. Hornung, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Arnold Bennett delight in their manufacture: but the foremost of the new school is Mr. Marriott Watson who as the author of *The Privateers* has produced "an exquisite poetic fantasy" which persuades M. de Wyzewa to pardon in Stevenson a legacy that it would otherwise be difficult to stomach. One blemish only M. de Wyzewa observes in Mr. Marriott Watson, as in many English writers: an excess of caution, of reserve; as if he were continually reminding his readers that "of course all this is not true, it is only make-believe." This becomes wearisome as it is quite unnecessary, and it chills the reader's enthusiasm.

RELIGION AND CLEVERNESS.

Then comes a bunch of religious novels, another essentially English type, which M. de Wyzewa can more easily approve than the former. In this category are novels by Mr. Richard Bagot, Mr. Joseph Hocking, Mrs. Wilfrid Ward, Lucas Malet and, above all, Father Robert Hugh Benson. For each of these writers in turn M. de Wyzewa has some good word in spite of the adverse criticisms which he cannot omit, and, with particular reference to the last three, he congratulates English literature on having "so many authors belonging to the Catholic Church who are capable of treating religious problems with so much boldness, circumspection and art." Next to these we find the historical novel, of Mr. Ford

Madox Hueffer, "who exhibits a precious combination of the essential qualities of historian and novelist;" the philosophic novel, of which one example by E. M. Foster is quoted to show how genius may create one perfectly true and original figure in the midst of a book that is otherwise crude and amateurish; and the "clever" novel, (M. de Wyzewa can find no word in French to express the full English meaning of that much abused adjective), of which Mr. John Galsworthy is a good exponent.

FOOTLIGHTS OR ARMCHAIR?

So at the end of his long journey through contemporary English romance, M. de Wyzewa is pleased to observe that, in general, "it seems to have lost little of its ancient vitality." He wonders whether any foreign school could show so many genuine prizes. The cause he finds in the comparative backwardness of the English stage; for in proportion as men and women write for the footlights they lose power, he thinks, in writing for the armchair. There are signs that the footlights are beginning to exercise a powerful attraction on English writers; and since most of us can read, while only a limited number can go to theatres we may be inclined to agree with this fair and kindly critic in his evident hope that our authors will not altogether abandon "the long and glorious traditions of their national romance."

LAW REPORTS.

H. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, February 17.

Before Sir HAVILLAND DE SAUSMAREZ, Judge.

A. MAREK P. TAILLIEU AND CO.

This was an appeal from the judgement delivered in the Provincial Court in Tientsin on December 30 last.

The plaintiff claimed damages from the defendants for wrongful dismissal, commission at the rate of 5 per cent on the net profits of the tailoring department, and a second-class passage from Tientsin to England: in all \$3,300.

In the original statement of claim the plaintiff alleged that he was dismissed on October 15 without notice. Defendants in their answer, alleged that the plaintiff had not carried out lawful orders entrusted to him, or faithfully obeyed their rules and regulations. They offered him \$200 which he would not accept, and were willing to pay his second-class passage to England if he travelled there. They also paid into Court \$128.85 as settlement of the commission claimed.

Mr. J. T. Pratt, H. B. M. Vice-Consul, held that the defendants were justified in dismissing the plaintiff because of an assault on one of defendants' employees, and gave judgement for the defendants with costs, less the sum of

\$83.47, cost of issuing the writ of summons.

The assessors who sat with Mr. Pratt, Messrs. R. K. Douglas and R. M. Gatliff dissented from this decision on the ground that the assault complained of had been committed under considerable provocation and was not sufficient to justify dismissal, and also because defendant had shown a strong desire to get rid of the plaintiff on account of poorness of trade, making the assault an excuse for dismissing him. They stated that they considered that the plaintiff was entitled to more than the amount paid into Court, and suggested that he be paid £100 by way of damages and his passage to England.

The plaintiff appealed from Mr. Pratt's decision on the grounds that the Court was in error in admitting evidence of the alleged act of violence, that it was in error in finding that a single act of violence justified the dismissal, and that the judgement was contrary to the evidence.

Mr. L. E. P. Jones appeared for the appellant; respondents were represented by Mr. R. E. Gregson.

Mr. Jones read over the original pleadings, the correspondence put in at the hearing, the evidence, and the decision of the Court and the Assessors' dissent therefrom. He stated that the plaintiff was an expert ladies' cutter and tailor, and that he had been engaged in London, where he had been employed by the well-known firm of Jays. The justification which was held by the Court to be sufficient for his dismissal was the striking by plaintiff of a Chinese employed by the defendants. The admission of evidence on this point was objected to at the hearing on the ground that it was evidence of justification different from that alleged in the pleadings. The objection was overruled and this was the only justification that had been proved. Counsel then went on to enumerate the circumstances that would justify instant dismissal, and dealt with the case of *Baster v. The London County Printing Works* (L. R., K. B. D., 1899, Vol. 1, p. 901) which had been referred to in the arguments before the Provincial Court. After commenting at length on the evidence adduced at Tientsin, counsel asked his Lordship to vary the judgement of the Provincial Court, by increasing the amount of damages awarded to plaintiff, and to allow plaintiff his costs in the Provincial Court and on appeal.

Mr. Gregson submitted that the Provincial Court was justified in finding as it did. He submitted that plaintiff was not taken by surprise when his assault on one of the firm's employees was raised as a ground for his dismissal. Plaintiff, from his own evidence, could not get on well with the Chinese.

His Lordship—There is no contract that he should.

Mr. Gregson submitted that the evidence showed that this assault was the culminating point of minor disturbances which had been going on for a considerable time. He con-

tended that the striking of one of the native tailors was a very serious matter, and would justify the dismissal on the ground that it would seriously prejudice the defendants' business.

His Lordship asked Counsel if he could explain why the Judge had entirely ignored the views of the assessors. If they had been a jury he would have been bound by their findings.

Mr. Gregson said he could not explain.

His Lordship—If they are any use at all they ought to be consulted. The Provisions of the Order in Council are very clearly drawn up in order to ensure the obtaining of assessors who are competent to be judges in the case.

Mr. Jones replied briefly to some of the points raised by Mr. Gregson.

His Lordship—This is an appeal from the Consular Court at Tientsin in an action brought by the plaintiff for damages for wrongful dismissal against the defendants who are a firm carrying on the business of tailors, amongst other things, in Tientsin. The action was dismissed on the ground that the defendants were justified in dismissing the plaintiff in consequence of certain conduct of his, being, as far as I can understand the judgement of the Court below, disobedience of the regulations of the business. The Judge in the Court below says that he is quite satisfied that the parties knew what they came into Court to fight, and that the point that was going to be fought was—that is the only logical inference that I can come to—whether this assault had been committed, and if it had been, whether it was sufficient to justify the dismissal of the plaintiff. All I can say is, if this is the case I cannot understand why on earth the Judge in the Court below made any order for pleadings, because the pleadings do not refer to this matter in any way at all. Defendants pleaded two breaches of contract, and it is on these breaches of contract that they rely in their dismissal of the plaintiff, and they come into Court, and Mr. Smith, the partner in the firm, who came to give evidence and who appears to have been the person who acted in this matter, said that in consequence of what he was told by one Wang of an assault upon him by the plaintiff, and of inquiries he made, he wrote a letter dismissing Marek. In other words, he dismissed him for a reason absolutely different from what he pleads. Not only that, he dismissed him without seeing him, a most high handed proceeding on his part. I must say it does not impress me in the least favourably when I consider the question of the fairness of his dealing with his employees. It is a serious matter to dismiss a man in this country, and to dismiss him unheard, is, to my mind, certainly a proceeding which can be most unfavourably commented upon. Then as I say, having dismissed him unheard for one reason, he goes into Court and alleges another reason which he absolutely fails to prove. According to the judgement of the Court below indeed he makes

very little attempt to prove it, but relies upon a matter of prejudice, namely the question whether an assault was committed, and then asks the Judge to try an issue that is not raised. I disagree with the ruling of the Judge that this evidence was properly admitted. If the pleadings are to mean anything, they are to define the issues and to give the parties some knowledge before they go into Court of what is going to be proved against them and what evidence they will be obliged to produce at the trial. That being the object of pleadings, I consider that the Judge was entirely wrong in admitting evidence of a matter which could not possibly be brought within the pleadings, that is to say, within what the Court was there to try.

As regards the finding of the Assessors, it is not of course necessary for me under the circumstances to comment on it, because, as I have pointed out, it is not a point which is really before the Court, but for the guidance of Provincial Courts I think it my duty to point out what the Assessors are there for. The Judge in the Court at Tientsin, as far as I can understand, has not consulted his Assessors at all, or if he has, he has so entirely ignored their opinion that he has not thought it worth while to explain why he differs from them. He does not mention them in any way in his judgement. Now the Provincial Courts sit with Assessors in all important cases which they try. Obviously the Assessor is there to strengthen the Court, and in order that his opinion may have weight with the Judge. The Assessors, by Rule 30, section 2 of the Rules of Court, are required to be competent persons, and the Court, from its list of Assessors selects competent persons to try a case. By competent in that rule is meant people who are capable of assisting the Court in coming to a decision. There may be complicated matters of account in which it would certainly be desirable to have someone acquainted with figures, methods of business, and so on. And so in nautical cases the Admiralty Court has a nautical assessor, and in cases of this kind, which go before a Provincial Court it is advisable for the Assessors to be persons with some technical knowledge. The Assessor is, therefore, an important person in the Provincial Court, and the rule goes on to show what an important person he is, because it goes on to give the parties leave to challenge an Assessor. It does not allow him to be challenged in open Court, because he is a member of the Court, sitting on the Bench, and it is obvious that it would be derogatory to him, when he is sitting on the Bench, to have his independence questioned. The parties can, therefore, signify to the Judge beforehand that they object to an Assessor, "and the Court, if it sustains the objection, shall select another duly qualified person." It requires Assessors to constitute the tribunal, and the importance of the

position occupied by the Assessor is shown by the provisions of the rule which ensure his being a competent independent person and being a member of the Court. The only part of the position of Assessor which seems to have been considered by the Court below is the provision in the Crown in Council that the "Assessor shall not have any voice in the decision of the Court," "Voice" there means that he shall not have a vote, so that two Assessors cannot outvote the Judge. That, for obvious reasons, is a reasonable provision. But when you have a question of pure fact, and nothing but fact, clearly the opinion of the Assessor who is a competent person, will in many cases be as valuable as that of the president of the tribunal, namely, the Consular officer holding it. And, where the Consular officer presiding over the Court entirely disagrees with the opinion of the Assessors on a pure question of fact, it is his duty, especially if the Assessors are unanimous in their opinion, to state his reason for coming to the conclusion he does, which will enable this Court to judge as between his opinion and that of the Assessors.

The Judge in the Court below on this occasion has not thought fit to do so, and as I have said before, it is not necessary for me to determine whether he or the Assessors are right in coming to the conclusion whether this act was one which would justify the defendants in dismissing the plaintiff. I feel strongly Mr. Gregson's arguments that in China any violence of this kind is calculated to do a considerable amount of harm to the business of an employer, and that in any case it is conduct which is to be deprecated. At the same time the Assessors take a very different view of the facts, and they do not consider that this was a serious assault, nor do they consider that it was committed without considerable provocation. It is not a question of justifying the assault, but a question whether the assault is of sufficient gravity to justify plaintiff's dismissal, and I am bound to say that so far as I can read the evidence I have come to the conclusion, so far as it is necessary for me to do so that the view the Assessors have taken is a more just view of what happened than that of the Vice-Consul. The Vice-Consul, I think, erroneously takes into consideration what happened before. Certainly what happened before was not pleaded and has never been suggested as a reason for dismissing the plaintiff. The defendants themselves rely in their evidence simply on this one particular act, or else on a breach of agreement. A breach of agreement they have failed to prove. Not only does the Vice-Consul allow them to go into this one particular act, in which I think he is wrong, but he allows them to bolster up this act by a desultory account of what has been going on for a long time. I do not think his judgement can stand, and I do not think it is necessary for me to do more than intimate in a general way why the reasons given by the Assessors appeal to me.

They appeal to me because they show that the Assessors have carefully considered the case and gone intelligently into the position of the parties, and, as far as I can see, looked upon the rights of the plaintiff in a reasonable way. And for that reason, and in order to save any further inquiries, I prefer to be guided by what they say as to the amount of damages rather than try to assess them myself, and I shall adopt what they call their suggestion, that the damages to be paid by the defendant to the plaintiff shall be £100, besides what has been paid into Court, and in the event of the plaintiff returning to England within a reasonable time, say three months from the present day or the termination of these proceedings, they shall also pay him his return passage home. The appeal is, therefore, allowed with costs and the defendants will have to pay costs in the Court below.

Shanghai, February 18.

Before Sir HAVILLAND DE SAUSMAREZ, Judge, and Messrs. O. ALDERTON, E. MOLLER, H. T. ALLEN, A. M. MACLEAN and A. A. PENNY, Jurors.

REX. v. IVOR THOMAS.

Ivor Thomas of 44 Haining Road was charged for that he, Ivor Thomas, and one H. J. Black (a citizen of the United States) being evilly-disposed persons and wickedly devising and intending to defraud and prejudice certain persons hereinafter mentioned did on the 12th day of November, 1907 and on divers other days thereafter, between the said last mentioned day and the 18th day of January, 1908, at Shanghai, unlawfully, fraudulently, and deceitfully did amongst themselves conspire, combine, confederate and agree together, and with divers other persons whose names are to the Crown Advocate unknown, by divers false pretences and unlawful subtle ways, means, stratagems and devices, to obtain and acquire to themselves of and from such Chinese and foreigners residents in Shanghai aforesaid, Ningpo and elsewhere in China (within the jurisdiction of the Court) as should thereafter be induced to buy shares or chances in a certain company or association known as the Watch Club, of divers large sums of money of the monies of the said Chinese and foreign residents as aforesaid and to cheat and defraud them thereof against the peace of our Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity.

Prisoner pleaded "Not Guilty" to this charge.

A second charge was then read by the Clerk of the Court as follows:—The said Crown Advocate further charges the said Ivor Thomas for that he the said Ivor Thomas in pursuance of and according to the said conspiracy, combination, confederacy and agreement as aforesaid did act as the manager of the said Shanghai Watch Club and did receive various sums of money from Chinese and foreigners residents as aforesaid buying shares or chances in the said Shanghai Watch Club and did issue receipt for the said sums of money

as manager thereof in form as though the said Shanghai Watch Club was a sound financial undertaking able out of its assets to meet its liabilities as was not the fact to the great damage of the said Chinese and foreigners buying shares or chances as aforesaid and against the peace of our Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity.

Prisoner said in answer to this charge: Well, I was manager of the Watch Club, but I am not guilty of any fraud.

ABSENT JURORS FINED.

Messrs. F. E. Hodges, P. Peebles and E. L. Allen were each fined £5 for failing to attend as jurors when summoned by the Court to do so.

JURORS CHALLENGED.

On the names of the jury being called the Crown Advocate (Mr. H. P. Wilkinson) challenged Messrs. J. C. Carter, S. Spooner, F. G. Payne, G. V. T. Marshall, J. Trevor Smith and E. R. Palmer, and they were told to stand down. The jury was then empanelled as above.

OPENING THE CASE.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson (Crown Advocate) with whom was Mr. S. H. McKean, prosecuted. Mr. T. Morgan Phillips and Mr. R. A. Frost represented the accused.

Lieut.-Col. Bruce, Captain-Superintendent of Police, occupied a seat in Court during part of the trial. Inspector G. Matheson represented the police, in the conduct of the case.

The Crown Advocate in opening his case endeavoured to show the jury that accused must have been cognisant of the state of affairs when he took over management of the Watch Club and that he carried on the business "under Mr. Black's fatherly interest." Counsel referred to the correspondence which showed that complaints had been made to the effect that the business of the Club was not being conducted properly. The Crown Advocate disclaimed responsibility for the closing of the Watch Club in the manner now well-known to the public. He said that it was not on account of any harsh action on his part as a representative of British authority that this Club was shut up, at any rate temporarily. The Club was closed through the Chinese going for their watches and not being able to get them. The Club was going to pieces and was rotten and getting worse from week to week, when he, the Crown Advocate, took action. Mr. Wilkinson proceeded to explain the scheme of the Watch Club and emphasized the promise that each Club should consist of forty members and that if one happened to be in a Club without forty members there was no drawing or demand for payment of weekly subscriptions until the forty had been completed. Of the eighty clubs supposed to be running at the time Mr. Thomas was arrested, not one of these eighty clubs had forty members in it. "that," said the Crown Advocate, "was an absolutely, clear, easy, square and well-understood fraud." Mr. Wilkinson pointed out that if there were not forty members in the Club the conditions

laid down for the drawings were not carried out. Counsel said he proposed to call Mr. Black to give evidence as to how to run a Watch Club. Mr. Wilkinson reviewed the evidence he proposed to call and said that in addition to the witnesses who gave evidence in the lower Court, and Mr. Black, he would call Detective-Inspector McDowell who would state that he had warned accused when he took over the management of the Watch Club from Mr. Black that the Club was not a sound financial undertaking.

THE EVIDENCE FOR THE CROWN.

Detective-Sub-Inspector Eek produced the rubber stamps, plates, books, files, papers, etc., that he removed from the offices of the Shanghai Watch Club.

Thomas Y. Pearson, British merchant, of Ningpo, who was Ningpo agent of the Watch Club, repeated in effect the evidence he gave in the Police Court. Witness produced correspondence he had with the Club, showing that he was not satisfied with the way in which they conducted business with him. Witness complained many times when Mr. Black was manager. Many mistakes were made in the numbering of members and witness complained without getting any satisfaction. Witness wrote and asked to be relieved of the Ningpo agency. After writing on December 13 witness came to Shanghai and had an interview with Mr. Thomas. He went back to Ningpo suspecting that the affairs of the Club were not in order. In January witness was unable to get the renewal tickets and details of the drawings, and he wrote to the Captain-Superintendent of Police complaining of the methods of the Club. Witness's wife also came to Shanghai and made inquiries about the Club as witness had three orders he could not get honoured, and if Mrs. Pearson was not satisfied with her investigation she was to deliver a second letter to the Captain-Superintendent of Police. Witness did not remit cheques for payments to the Watch Club every Tuesday morning as requested by Mr. Thomas in his letter of November 20, because he did not trust the Watch Club sufficiently. The sum of \$1,251 had been paid by Ningpo members and no prizes had been awarded in return. There were also five orders of a total value of \$184 which had not been paid. These orders were on Messrs. Ullmann & Co. Witness himself had three orders which had not been honoured.

The Court adjourned for tiffin at this stage. His Lordship stated that as this case would take some time he proposed to sit from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2 to 4.30 p.m. each day. The jury would not be locked up at night.

Mr. Phillips asked whether accused would be allowed out on bail.

His Lordship said that such a course would be most unusual. Once accused had surrendered to his bail and the trial began he would be kept in custody until its conclusion unless exceptional circumstances could be shown by counsel.

The Court then rose.

Mr. Pearson, continuing, after the adjournment, identified the telegrams he had received from accused, and two delivery orders, which had not been honoured. Witness did not know the contents of the circulars sent to him for distribution. He identified the accounts he had kept himself of his agency for the Watch Club. He would be \$1,121.55 short, if he had to settle up the business of the Watch Club in Ningpo. The Chinese depositors at Ningpo were dissatisfied and looked to him for payment.

Cross-examined—Witness made complaints about the methods of the Watch Club as early as July. He had a notice to the effect that Mr. Thomas had taken over management, in November, and a little later he received a letter from Thomas stating that the business would be run on better lines. Witness sent up a Chinese early in January to Shanghai, with respect to complaints that had been made. About January 9 he came to Shanghai himself and squared up matters with accused. Witness did not remit any money to Shanghai that he had collected under Mr. Thomas' management. Witness refused to remit weekly. He had formed an unfavourable opinion of the position of the club during Mr. Black's management. Witness received an order for goods on January 9. He presented the order to Ullmann's who would have honoured it if he had required the goods that day. None of the orders received by witness were dishonoured until January 20. Some orders were due at the time Thomas took over the management.

Re-examined—Witnessed the people at Ningpo to understand that the orders for goods were valid for any length of time.

Anders Olsen, sworn, stated that he was police inspector in charge of the police of the Commercial settlement at Soochow. A branch of the Watch Club was established at Soochow. A Frenchman ran a watch-club up there and there was serious trouble about it. The trouble did not affect the branch of the Shanghai Watch Club, but when witness came to Shanghai to see the French Consul, he also saw the British Consul, who advised him to close up the Shanghai Watch Club there. Witness did so and seized the assets which amounted to about \$10 and some furniture. He also found an agreement between the agent Wong Kee-yu and Thomas. Wong was to receive \$5.00 commission on each new member. Witness had a letter from Mr. Black a few days after the Club was closed, in connexion with the Club. The Soochow branch ceased to receive money after witness had closed the Club there. The receipts at Soochow were also stamped by Thomas. The liabilities in Soochow amounted to about \$6,000.

Cross-examined—Witness believed the Watch Club started business in Soochow about a year ago. Witness received no complaints from depositors.

Detective Sub-Inspector Eek, recalled, identified two cabinets and some drawers marked "Winning Numbers", "Newby," "Lapses" "Private",

"Receipts" "Exchange Tables" "Refunds" "Jen", which he had brought to court during the tiffin adjournment.

Kwok Chang-tsang stated that acting on the Crown Advocate's instructions he inserted advertisements in the native papers requesting receipt holders to send in their receipts. They poured in on January 27 and ever since receipts had come in daily. Witness had made a list of them, as far as he could and found that 8,707 \$1 tickets were signed by Black and 3,331 by Thomas; 2,582 60 cent tickets were signed by Black and 2,311 by Thomas; 2,147 tickets which had been mentioned but not sent in had been signed by Black or Thomas. Witness had translated the leaflets circulated at Ningpo. (The Crown Advocate read extracts from the translation.) Witness also identified his translation of other literature issued by the Watch Club.

Cross-examined—Witness could not say whether all the persons mentioned on the lists of winners had received watches. Witness had received complaints from persons who held orders which had been dishonoured.

M. Bernheim, manager of Ullmann & Co., repeated the evidence he had given in the Court below. The gold-plated watches he sold to the watch Club were \$20 each. The silver watches were \$6.25. The Club owed Ullmann & Co. \$474 for watches, less \$132.25 for watches returned on January 21 by Mr. Dooley. Witness heard that the Gillette Development Co. had taken over the Watch Club. He had seen some of the company's scrip signed by accused as secretary. Another class of business that was done by the Club was the giving of \$40 orders on Ullmann & Co. Negotiations for this business were opened by Black, but fell through.

When Thomas took over the management business was arranged on these terms for cash. The customer was allowed to choose \$40 worth of goods and the Club was charged the wholesale price. Witness identified a number of orders on his firm, signed by Thomas. These orders were to be presented for payment once a week. The last payment made by the Watch Club was on Monday, January 13. During the succeeding week \$774 worth of orders were cashed, for which Ullmann & Co. had never received payment. Witness went round on January 20 several times, but found the office closed. Witness tried to see Thomas and as he failed he went to see Dooley and Black. The latter had shares in the Gillette Development Co.; he had seen scrip for 35 shares in Black's name. Dooley said that he had no money and could not pay; Black said that there were assets and that witness would be paid. On Tuesday witness saw Black and Thomas at the Watch Club's offices. While witness was there an iron safe was removed—he thought at Mr. Black's direction. Mr. Black said that it had only been hired. Thomas stated that \$11,000 or \$12,000 were outstanding and that Black, McDermid of Tientsin, and Pearson of Ningpo owed him money.

Cross-examined—The retail price for the watches which he sold at \$20 wholesale, was \$40 less 10 per cent or \$36. Until after January 13 Ullmann & Co. were paid regularly, week by week. Witness did not tell his shroff not to leave the watches, until they were paid for. Witness did not remember Thomas telling him on January 22 that Mr. Engelbracht had issued improper orders on the Club. Thomas stated that he was only a paid servant of the Watch Club. Witness dealt with several watch clubs. He gave the Chinese Swiss Watch Club considerable credit.

Re-examined—Witness first sold watches to the Club through their shroff, who paid cash for them. On December 31 witness received instructions not to honour orders merely stamped with a signature.

The Court then adjourned until 10 a.m. next day.

Shanghai, February 19.

The hearing of the charges against Ivor Thomas was resumed.

The Crown Advocate, assisted by Mr. McKean, prosecuted; the defence was conducted by Mr. T. Morgan Phillips and Mr. R. A. Frost.

C. S. Tung was called, and repeated substantially the evidence he had given in the lower Court.

His Lordship advised the Jury not to read newspaper reports of the trial. They were necessarily shortened, did not purport to be accurate reports and might be misleading.

Cross-examined—Witness was told by the shroff who had collected the dollars from him that he had drawn a winning number a week after the drawing of December 7. The first time he applied for a watch was on January 21. He had not seen Thomas until he saw him in the Court below.

H. J. Black, sworn, stated that he attended the Court under a request from the British Court to his Consul. He was once connected with the Shanghai Watch Club.

Mr. Wilkinson—If you go on drawing for forty weeks from numbers 1-40, the average for the total will be 20?

His Lordship—That is a question of arithmetic.

Mr. Wilkinson caused some amusement by referring to it as a matter of Providence, to which Mr. Phillips retorted that surely Providence had nothing to do with matters such as these.

Mr. Wilkinson—Then perhaps it is the other gentleman (Laughter.)

Mr. Wilkinson—Now one of the principles of the Watch Club is that when a man's number was drawn he got his watch, even if he had made one or two payments only?—That is so.

If his number in the Club were 2 and it did not come out he might have to make forty payments?—Yes.

If he made forty payments, then the Watch Club was to the good?—Not necessarily.

Suppose a man made two payments and drew a watch, he was entitled to stop paying?—Yes.

But you have given him a watch worth something; how much is it worth?

—The actual cost is \$18 to \$20 per watch. We reckoned the cost at \$26 with commissions and expenses.

Then you had given him a \$26 watch for \$27?—There are forty members in each club. Each member pays \$1 a week. The watch costs \$18, and \$4 has to be paid to agents and \$14 is allowed for expenses. We have, therefore, received \$40 and given in exchange a watch worth \$26. The next week another member is put into the Club to take his place.

But have you no liability to the other members of the Club on the \$14 profit?—None whatsoever. The winner was always replaced in the club by another member when I was running the Club.

In the first week you have taken \$40 from forty different men. You have paid out \$26 for a watch. As regards the first week then you have got a balance of \$14, on which you owe a certain liability to the remaining thirty-nine men. Do you owe any obligation whatsoever in regard of that balance to the thirty-nine men?—There is an obligation which is always carried out.

Do you or do you not owe an obligation to these thirty-nine men, either to give them a watch or \$40 worth of goods, if they win before they have paid in \$40?—If they comply with their obligation.

Your proposition is that you always replaced members, and the following week you received \$40, so that your total receipts in two weeks would be \$80, out of which you will have spent \$52 on watches. But there comes a time when you have members in the club who are completing their \$40 payments?—It is figured out that five men in each club will be given a watch on the completion of forty payments, that five members in each club will allow their payments to mature. I was in one concern in San Francisco for five and a half years without interruption.

The second week you will get \$40, making \$80 in all?—Yes.

And you have not wiped out the obligation to any one of the forty members because a new member has come in?—It is possible that there may have been twenty-five to thirty lapses in that time.

We will leave that out for the present. You still have forty men in the club?—But we are only obligated to thirty-eight.

Continuing, witness said that the Crown Advocate was dealing with theory, and he desired to give a practical illustration. Forty members joined the club. Each member paid \$1. The first week one man was awarded a watch, for which he paid only \$1, and according to a layman, the club lost \$39, though as a matter of fact it made a profit of \$14. Forty weeks passed. It was calculated that at the expiration of forty weeks five members would have paid \$40 and be entitled to a watch. During that time the club would have received \$1,600 and spent \$1,040 in watches, showing a profit of \$560 on the club.

His Lordship—But the time must come when you wind up the clubs. You cannot keep them full for ever?—Preparation is made for that. The manager of the Club finds that he is unable to complete the clubs. Say there are forty clubs, and only thirty-nine members in each. The men in one of the clubs are then merged into others. There is nothing to prevent us doing this until we come down to the last club. That leaves a loss of forty watches at the end, which is more than set off by the previous profit.

Witness stated that a coolie in the Chartered Bank had paid \$3 a week for three weeks, and had drawn three watches—a watch a week. It was estimated that only five members in each club would carry their subscriptions to maturity, but the club could have paid if twenty members had done so. The margin of profit would enable it to pay for twenty watches. Witness had removed nothing from the premises in January.

Mr. Wilkinson—Were you a casual spectator there on the day the Watch Club closed?

Witness—What day did it close?

Mr. Wilkinson—That is what I want to know. Were you there as a casual spectator, or because you were interested in what was going to happen? I found on the premises a trial balance sheet from August 18, 1906, to August 22, 1907. It shows that you received \$91,873.05 during that time.

Witness, looking at the balance sheet, said that that was so. He further stated that according to this balance sheet \$12,604 was paid in salaries and wages; \$53,284 was paid for watches and \$3,750 for orders for jewellery; and commissions to agents amounted to \$18,275. These were the figures on the trial balance furnished to him by the bookkeeper. He did not transfer the business until later. Witness was not himself an expert accountant, and could not strike a balance sheet.

Mr. Wilkinson—Did you make then, or when you transferred the management, any provision in the way of a sinking fund or any provision at all for meeting obligations to members? Did you hand over any capital?

Witness said that he did not, as none was needed. It was a cash business. At the beginning he had only put in \$1,351.35. The business paid for itself as it went along. Witness himself took out between \$11,000 and \$12,000 during the year, which included Tls. 350 a month he received as salary. He had originally an agreement with Hope Bros., who were his partners. They received \$5,342.89 during that year as commission for watches, besides the profits they made on orders for other goods.

Mr. Wilkinson—Were the watches worth \$50 as advertised?

Witness said that they were sold at \$40 to \$45 in the retail shops in Shanghai. In the majority of jewellery stores \$48 was charged for them. The Watch Club had a special price from the Keystone Elgin Company. Witness had no dealings with Ullmann & Co. He had never asked that firm

for credit. It was true that the Watch Club owed Hope Bros. about \$280 for rent and lighting at the time of the transfer, but that was due to a personal question between that firm and himself. He had not paid it owing to some question about an agent guaranteed by them who had made off with some of the watches. That his relations with them were satisfactory was shown by the fact that he had purchased \$58,000 worth of watches through them, and that they had allowed him credit to the extent of \$15,000. Witness was not running the Watch Club when it moved from Messrs. Hope Bros.' premises. He did not think that Mr. Thomas knew that any amount was owing for rent. Before the transfer witness was sole owner of the Watch Club, and all obligations had to be met by him. His partnership with Hope Bros. had been abrogated. Witness owed nothing to the Horse Bazaar, nor did the Watch Club owe anything. Some of the agents might have owed money to that company, but they worked on a commission basis, and had a perfect right to go about as they thought fit. On the day witness transferred the Watch Club he personally owed about \$7,843. Possibly he owed about \$11,000 altogether. He settled up his obligations before he left, by payments in cash, with the exception of a sum of about \$5,000 owing to Hope Bros., which the Gillette Development Company undertook instead of paying him cash for his stock. His stock amounted to about \$4,500. Witness owned a 7/16 share in the Gillette Development Company. He believed Thomas signed as secretary, but did not know whether he had any interest. The agreement was that witness was to sell a half share in the Watch Club for \$10,000. Mr. Dooley asked witness if he wished to sell the whole concern, and witness replied that he was ready to sell half. This he agreed to do for \$10,000, retaining 7/16 interest in the Gillette Development Co. Witness did not see Thomas during the time he was negotiating for the transfer. He had the articles of the Gillette Development Company at his house.

Mr. Wilkinson—Is it registered in Arizona?

Witness said that he did not know. His calculations of the profits included a certain amount of lapses, and was based on actual experience. In his experience lapses had proved a source of profit to the Club. Witness explained a typewritten form urging members not to allow their subscriptions to lapse by saying that if a member's name were removed from the Club before he had been notified he would probably come round and complain. It was also necessary to send this notice to prevent carelessness or dishonesty on the part of the collectors. The lapses varied from 80 to 240 a week. Some members lapsed who had paid \$10, \$15 and even \$20. It was true that he had written to a Mr. Edwards stating that the lapses were awful, and concurring with his proposal that members should pay \$4 at the

outset. This was to enable agents to receive their commissions at once. The lapses had exceeded 15,000 during the time witness was in charge of the Watch Club. Agents received \$4 commission on the first sixteen payments. The Soochow manager received \$5, because he was in charge of the district. When the transfer took place it was understood that the Gillette Development Company should put a man in charge of the business. Witness had written several letters stating that Thomas had been appointed manager. He also took Thomas round to Carlowitz & Co., through whom the watches were purchased, and introduced him to Mr. Berthel. When the negotiations for the transfer were proceeding witness asked Mr. Dooley to send round a Chartered Accountant to inspect the books. Mr. Adams was sent round, and though witness did not see his report it must have been favourable, as the transfer took place. During witness's management his policy had been to advertise the winning numbers in the "North-China Daily News" each week, and letters were also sent to the winning members. A member could then call in on the Monday morning and receive his watch. There were a few minor complaints, but never any serious ones, and witness never had any trouble with the Chinese. When he heard that the Watch Club was in difficulties he procured the services of an accountant, Mr. Porter, of Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co., and went round. Mr. Porter examined the books, and verbally reported to witness that every dollar received had been expended legally. He said that there was considerable money outstanding, which the management had been unable to collect. At the time of the transfer of the Watch Club to the Gillette Development Company there were several Chinese who had won watches five, six, seven and even eight months back, but had not applied for them. These men were referred to him, and he had cashed some 150 orders after he had sold the Club. It was not uncommon for people to come in to the Watch Club, pay down \$40 and take away their watches. With regard to the sum of \$4,981 which he was supposed to owe to the Horse Bazaar, if witness had been riding in their carriages the whole time he could not have owed that amount.

Mr Wilkinson—Can you explain why, if you handed over a sound working concern to the Gillette Development Company, it has not paid?

Witness—There are several reasons. The first and material reason is because in the Council minutes a reference was made to the Watch Club. Several Chinese then came round and asked me if it were going to close up. I said I knew nothing about it. I think that reference destroyed the confidence of people in the concern, and precipitated a run upon it.

His Lordship—How do you mean "a run?"

Witness—People who had paid a little refused to pay any more. Our object was to get people to continue.

His Lordship—But you said lapses were a source of profit.

Witness—Then I think Thomas made a great mistake in changing the offices of the Club. With all due deference to Thomas I do not think he was able to make his collections promptly. There are amounts of about \$500 outstanding from Ningpo; \$480 from Soochow; \$600 from the comprador here, as well as sums from Tientsin and Hankow, and \$350 from Foochow, altogether from \$6,000 to \$8,000 outstanding, which, if it had been collected with promptness would have relieved the financial position. There was trouble with Mr. Pearson at Ningpo, who refused to forward the sums he had received until he had been paid a sum of thirty cents for the distribution of circulars.

Witness went on to say that he had been round to the Watch Club premises with Messrs. Dooley, Frost, and Thomas about a week before the Club was closed. Witness was not prepared to say whether he had received letters from Carlowitz & Co., dated November 26.

Mr. Wilkinson—Who are the present proprietors of the Watch Club?

Witness—I don't know. I think you are. (Laughter.)

Mr. Wilkinson—When this calamity took place?

Witness—The Gillette Development Company.

It is a British Company?—I do not know.

This closed the examination in chief.

Cross-examined by Mr. Phillips, witness stated that he had conducted watch clubs for some years past. He had formed them and carried them on. He had started the business in San Francisco in 1892, and before he did so watch clubs had been in existence for about ten years. This was the first he had ever known to be carried on unsuccessfully. The system was inaugurated by the Keystone Case Company, when a small concern. In 1892 it came to San Francisco, where witness joined it. He was there for five and a half years, and sold 17,000 watches. He started the Shanghai Watch Club on August 8, 1906, and transferred it to the Gillette Development Company on November 12, last year. Up to that time he was sole manager. Hope Bros. only had an interest of forty per cent. Up to November 12 last, witness had no knowledge of the accused in connexion with the operations of the Watch Club. He first heard of Thomas when he was negotiating with Dooley, who said that he was going to put him in as manager. Witness did not select Thomas as manager. Witness gave certain figures to Dooley when they were negotiating, showing an estimate of the profits if the business was conducted properly. He arrived at those figures himself, and the state-

ment showed the estimated profits to be \$66,540 for the 119 clubs then running. He asked Dooley to select an accountant to go over the books. Witness entered into a personal agreement with the Gillette Development Company by which he assumed all lawful debts and claims up to the date of the transfer. He had never been guilty of any conspiracy with Thomas to defraud anyone, either before or after November 12. Mr. Porter reported to him that all moneys collected were during Thomas's management. He would not be surprised to hear that outstanding accounts amounted to nearly \$17,000. Witness's total liabilities before the transfer were notified to him in January and he then authorized the Gillette Development Company to devote any dividends due to him to paying these amounts off. The debt to Hope Bros. which was taken over by the Gillette Development Company amounted to \$4,900. The Company undertook to satisfy this claim in return for witness's stock. This stock was in the hands of agents, and amounted to \$4,440. The Gillette Development Company could not recover it from the agents. Therefore they had to satisfy Messrs. Hope Bros.' debt and were without watches.

At this stage the Court adjourned for tiffin.

On resuming at 2 o'clock Mr. Morgan Phillips said that he desired to ask Mr. Black some further questions.

Mr. Black was not in attendance.

His Lordship said that counsel had better proceed with another witness until Mr. Black arrived.

The Crown Advocate said that he would probably apply later for leave to cross-examine Mr. Black.

His Lordship said that this application must be made later. His Lordship would also have a considerable number of questions to put to Mr. Black.

Mr. Black arrived at this stage and went into the witness box. Cross-examined by Mr. Phillips he said the Development Company paid \$5,000 of his liabilities. They also paid Messrs. Hope Bros. \$4,000 and in the event of not securing certain watches they would also be out of pocket that amount. Witness told Mr. Thomas to send anyone who had any claims on the Watch Club previous to November 9 to witness. Mr. Black identified the Articles of Association of the Gillette Development Company. He also identified the agreement entered into with him for the sale of the Watch Club. In accordance with this agreement witness used to go to the office and advise Mr. Thomas with regard to the business, the correspondence, etc. On January 17 witness went to the Watch Club office and there met Mr. Dooley, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Bassett and Mr. Frost. There was a discussion of the affairs of the Watch Club. Mr. Dooley stated that the affairs of the Club could not be conducted any further. Witness said that he thought the Club could be liquidated and that profits could be made. Witness said that he thought

he could arrange with Mr. Silva Netto to act as liquidator. Mr. Dooley stated that the business could not be carried on without funds and he asked witness if he could pay over the sum of \$5,000 which he owed, to the Gillette Development Company. Witness stated that he would pay just as soon as the accounts were presented. The account had been sent to witness on January 14, but witness asked for an itemized account. When witness went through the account he saw that there were certain items which should not have been charged to witness's account. Witness did not remember that Mr. Dooley said that neither he nor Mr. Thomas would have anything more to do with the business.

By Mr. Wilkinson.—This interview took place on January 17, but by the advice of all concerned it was arranged to have a drawing on January 18. Witness did not agree with Mr. Dooley's view that the Club could not be run; witness thought it could be liquidated. Witness was to be paid \$10,000 for a half share in the Watch Club. The trial balance showed a sum of \$1,766 carried to credit of Profit and Loss Account.

Mr. Wilkinson.—Where is that \$66,000 that you say the business was worth and for half of which you were paid \$10,000?

Witness.—You don't suppose that I am going to show in that trial balance the profit for the coming year, do you?

Mr. Wilkinson.—Was that business worth \$66,000?

Witness.—Yes, it was to me.

Mr. Wilkinson.—What was the capital of the Company?

Witness.—\$80,000.

Mr. Wilkinson.—How much of that did you put up?

Witness.—My valuable stock. I was paid \$35,000 in shares and \$10,000 in cash for my stock.

Asked what nationality the present Company was witness said that he was a member of the Company and he owned shares, but he did not know what nationality the Company was.

Mr. Wilkinson.—I am afraid the police will have to take charge of it then.

By his Lordship.—The average number of clubs for the first fifteen months was about seventy. They had 119 clubs when the business finished. There were never more clubs. Witness could not say how many members had joined the Club altogether. There were about 15,000 lapses, most of them by people who paid less than \$5.

His Lordship pointed out that in this statement of profits made by Mr. Black he had put down \$14 on every single watch for every member then in the Club. There would be lapses, and although it was true that these persons would not get watches, yet it had been calculated that they would pay a profit of \$14 each. Instead of the profits being set down as \$14 on every single watch it was probably not more than \$3 average.

In reply to further questions witness explained to the Judge how the proper way to shut down a club was to merge one club into another, always keeping

up the forty members on each club. At the time witness handed over the Club the increase in membership was about 250 weekly. The Club received \$40 from each club each week and it did not matter whether a man had paid only \$1 or \$39 before he drew a watch.

In reply to the jury witness said that he knew of many clubs which had been successfully closed in San Francisco Honolulu and nearly all the cities in the West. He did not know of any club that was not closed successfully. The Club was solvent when it was taken over by Mr. Thomas; it had no liabilities. A member of the jury pointed out that the Club was liable for the money paid by the members.

Witness said that he had offered to close the Watch Club and meet all its obligations, but Mr. Wilkinson would not allow it.

By Mr. Wilkinson.—Witness's scheme for closing the Club was that the present members should meet their obligations, but no new members would be allowed to join.

By Mr. Phillips.—To hold office under the Club a person must hold one share according to the Articles of Association.

Mr. Black then left the box.

His Lordship reminded the jury that the issue they had to decide was whether prisoner used this Club as a means of defrauding others. They had not to decide on the way this Club conducted its business.

P. G. Sagnol, of the New Travellers' Hotel, repeated the evidence he gave in the lower Court.

C. Gronenberg, Manager of Hope Bros., Ltd., stated that \$4,981 was due to Messrs. Hope Bros. by the Watch Club on November 12 for goods obtained on orders direct from Messrs. Hope Bros. On November 26 this amount was transferred against Mr. Dooley. They did not accept the first letter stating that Mr. Black would pay the amount, but insisted on payment. Then the amount was transferred against Mr. Dooley as stated. With the exception of \$800 still due this had been paid by Mr. Dooley since. Messrs. Hope Bros. originally put in Tls. 400 or forty per cent of the paid up capital. That amount had since been repaid, but Hope Bros. never received any profits, nor any statement of account. When the Watch Club got into difficulties he spoke to Mr. Dooley about the matter. Mr. Black was at the Watch Club office nearly every day up to December 1 and witness had seen him there occasionally afterwards. On January 4 the last payment was made for delivery orders and after that they honoured no more.

In reply to Mr. Morgan Phillips witness said that he saw a photograph similar to the one in Court in Hope Bros' shop in September. The rent of the premises occupied by the Watch Club was supposed to be paid monthly. That due for November and December was paid by Mr. Thomas. On November 12 witness sent an account for the two previous months rent to Mr. Thomas and it was subsequently paid

by Mr. Dooley. Hope Bros' account of \$4,900 was incurred during Mr. Black's time and \$4,000 was paid by Mr. Dooley. Mr. Black repaid Hope Bros. their first deposit of Tls. 400 on November 15. The new management, therefore, had nothing to do with that amount.

In reply to Mr. Wilkinson witness said that the only guarantee Hope Bros. gave was for the watches and if a picture of Hope Bros' establishment were used it was not with witness' sanction. The case was then adjourned until 10 a.m. next day.

H. M. POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, February 17.

Before F. S. A. BOURNE, Esq.,
sitting as Police Magistrate.

JAWALLA SINGH v. HERNAM SINGH,
MALL SINGH, NORAIN SINGH AND
GOORDAT SINGH.

Defendants were summoned for assaulting complainant at 8 p.m. on February 5.

Complainant said that he was employed in the police force at Ningpo, but he left about two months ago, came to Shanghai and lodged with Hernam Singh. Witness deposited \$30 in cash and a watch value \$10 with Hernam. One day some food was prepared for four men and during that meal-time they began drinking. Hernam wished witness to drink to excess, but he refused to do so. Hernam said that if witness did not choose to do the same as the rest he had better get out. Witness politely asked defendants to give him his things, but they refused him. Mall Singh took witness by the arm and Hernam Singh struck him with the stick. Norain Singh took witness by the hair and Hernam Singh began beating him all over the body. Witness fell down and he received many kicks from all the defendants. Goordat Singh handed the stick to Hernam Singh and he said "If this fellow dies never mind, there is no one to look after him." Hernam Singh, two days afterwards, said that he desired to settle the matter without going to Court.

Hernam Singh swore that complainant never deposited \$30 and a watch with him.

His Worship said that one of these two men was telling lies and so he would refer the matter to the Granthi for him to ascertain the truth of the matter. The Granthi would then report to the Court and the question of assault would be heard. If the Granthi fined either of these men in his own way according to the Sikh custom, he must report to the Court.

Hernam Singh said that although the case had been referred to the Granthi he and the other defendants were prepared to sign a paper saying that they would go to prison for five years if complainant had paid anything to witness.

Before G. W. KING Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

SHANGHAI NANKING RAILWAY CO.
V. DEVA SINGH.

Deva Singh, Sikh railway guard, was brought up on a British warrant charged with kidnapping a Chinese boy from Changchow city to his room where he did feloniously and maliciously wound him with a knife on the head and hands, contrary to Statute 24 and 25 Vic. c. 100.

Det.-Sgt. Craig deposed that at 3 p.m. on Saturday he received a warrant for the arrest of Deva Singh. Witness proceeded to the railway station with the Jemadar and arrested accused who was being detained in the waiting-room. The accused stated that the charge made against him was false, that on the 14th instant robbers went to his hut at Changchow, stole a suit of clothing and \$4. Witness took accused to the West Hongkew Police Station.

Mr. Phillips, of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway Co., asked for a remand until Thursday as Mr. A. W. U. Pope was away and Mr. H. P. Winslow wished to consult him about the case.

His Worship pointed out that the charge was a serious one and should be brought properly. The charge should not be kept over this man's head until Thursday, and Mr. Pope could be consulted by telegraph. He would be prepared to hear the case next day.

Mr. Phillips then applied for a remand until Tuesday.

Accused was remanded to the British gaol until next day.

Shanghai, February 18.

Deva Singh, a railway guard on the S.-N. Railway, was brought up on remand, charged with kidnapping a Chinese boy from Changchow city to his room, where he did feloniously and maliciously wound him with a knife on the head and hands, contrary to Statute 24 and 25 Vic. cap 100.

Mr. Walker appeared on behalf of the Railway Company and the complainant.

Mr. Walker now asked that a further charge, under Sec. 62 of the same Act, should be added to the original charge.

His Worship altered the charge accordingly, and evidence in support of the two charges was then called.

The case eventually was adjourned until 10 a.m. next day.

Before F. S. A. BOURNE, Esq.,
Sitting as Police Magistrate.

REX V. JONDAB SINGH.

Jondab Singh, a watchman at Pootung, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Burkill Road at 4.20 p.m. on the 17th instant.

Accused said that if he were allowed to go this time he would never repeat the offence.

Indian P. C. 460 stated that he arrested accused, who was drunk and disorderly in Burkill Road at 4.45 the preceding day. Accused was very drunk.

Inspector Mackintosh stated that this was accused's first offence.

His Worship cautioned accused and find him \$5 or a week's imprisonment in default of payment.

REX V. MANGAL SINGH.

Mangal Singh, a police constable, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Yangtzepoo Police Station at 2.10 p.m. on the 15th instant.

P. C. Massenger stated that he was on duty in Yangtzepoo Station at 3.30 p.m. on the 15th instant and the accused came in in a very intoxicated condition. He behaved in a very disorderly manner, shouting at the top of his voice. He had no turban on and his hair was hanging over his shoulder. Witness questioned accused through an interpreter. He said that he had been assaulted in a room in the station. Witness made inquiries in the room and was told that accused came in at 3.15 and started abusing every one. Several men tried to persuade accused to go back to his station. Witness locked accused up until 8.30 p.m., when he was released and sent back to his station.

Inspector Mackintosh stated that accused had been confined to barracks ever since.

His Worship cautioned accused and said that had he been drunk when on duty he would have been sent to prison for a month. However, his conduct was inconsistent with that of a constable and he would go to prison for a fortnight with hard labour and pay the cost of the summons.

U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, February 18.

Before the HON. CHAS. DENBY,
Consul-General, Acting Judicially.

U. S. OF AMERICA V. L. CONCHA.

L. Concha was brought up on remand, charged with having on December 2, 1907, forged on the pay-sheet of the Municipal Fire Department the name of L. Peril, with intent to injure and defraud one Pon Kuck-hien, the compradore of the Shanghai Municipal Council.

Mr. A. Bassett, District Attorney, prosecuted and Mr. E. A. Douthitt appeared for the defence.

Detective-Sergeant Reeves, sworn, stated that he arrested the accused on a United States Consular warrant at 3.45 p.m. on the 12th instant.

Pon Kuck-hien stated that he was compradore to the Shanghai Municipal Council and it was his business to pay the salaries of the members of the Band and the Fire Department. Witness did not know the accused personally, but recognized his face. The document produced was the Fire Department pay-sheet. The sum of \$60 appearing opposite the name of L. Peril had been paid. The shroff paid it twice. Witness did not himself make the actual payments; his shroff handled the money.

Pon Hong-chan, a shroff in the last witness's office, said that he knew the accused. The November salaries of the

native members of the Fire Department were paid on Monday, December 2. Between 11 a.m. and noon on that date the accused came into the office and signed the name "L. Pueril" on the pay-sheet opposite to the entry of the salary of L. Peril, and received L. Peril's salary. Witness did not know at that time that the accused was not L. Peril. After signing the name "L. Pueril" on the pay-sheet, the accused handed the sheet to witness and the latter paid him \$60 in silver. A few minutes later the real Peril came into the office and asked for his salary. Witness told him that the money had already been paid and asked him to find out who had received it. An attempt was made during the next two days to find the man, but without success, and witness then paid Peril his salary. Witness had an idea that the man who wrongfully received the money was a member of the Band, and asked Mr. Castro to help him to find the man. Witness afterwards went to a Band practice at the Town Hall and there saw and identified the accused. He was sure that the accused was the man who signed Peril's name on the pay-sheet and wrongfully received the money intended for Peril.

Cross-examined—On December 2 accused asked for the pay-sheet and was offered the Band pay-sheet. He refused that and asked for the Fire Department pay-sheet, which he signed in the name of L. Peril. Accused's salary as a member of the Band was \$71.50. The accused received and signed for his salary as a member of the Band on November 30. Two days later the accused came to witness's office and asked for the Fire Department pay-sheet. On December 5 witness went to the Town Hall, where the members of the Band were mustered, and picked out the man to whom he had paid Peril's salary. Witness asked Mr. Castro what the man's name was. The accused's salary for December was paid to his wife.

Re-examined—On December 2 witness did not know the accused by name, but knew his face. He thought he recognized him as a member of the Band and that was why witness first offered him the Band pay-sheet.

Cross-examined—The accused called for his January salary and then the matter of the \$60 wrongfully paid was discussed. Witness offered to accept repayment by instalments of \$10 per month, but the accused denied that he had ever received the money.

Lango Peril, watchman at the Central Bell Tower, stated that he had been employed by the Council for three and a half years and his salary was \$60 per month. He went to collect his November salary on December 2, but did not receive it on that date because the pay-sheet had already been signed opposite his name. He had known the accused about eighteen months. He saw the accused in the compradore's office on December 2. As witness entered, the accused was coming out of the room with a roll of silver dollars in his hand.

Cross-examined—There was one other Filipino, named Rodrigues, in the room

at the time. Witness could swear positively that this was on December 2.

R. Rodrigues stated that he was a watchman at the Hongkew Bell Tower. He drew his November salary at 11.50 a.m. on December 2. As witness was going upstairs to the compradore's office, the accused was coming down. Witness saw nothing in accused's hands, but heard some money jingling in his pocket. When witness reached the compradore's office, he saw Peril talking to the shroff there.

A. Santiago, watchman at the Central Bell Tower, said that he drew his salary at 11.20 a.m. on December 2. He saw the accused in the compradore's office at the time and spoke to him. The accused asked if it was the Fire Department's pay-day and witness replied that it was. After drawing his salary, witness returned to the Bell Tower to relieve Peril, who went to draw his salary at 11.35 a.m.

Mr. Douthitt moved that the charge be dismissed on account of the unsatisfactory nature of the evidence for the prosecution. He said that he would like to have His Honour's ruling on this point, and if the motion were dismissed, he would have to ask for a continuance in order to call witnesses for the defence.

Mr. Bassett briefly summed up the evidence and pointed out that the accused was identified by the shroff and was seen in the compradore's office about noon on December 2 by three independent witnesses. One of these witnesses saw money in the accused's hand, and another witness had just previously been asked by the accused if that was the Fire Department's pay-day.

In reply to His Honour, the accused said that he went to the compradore's office on December 2 to collect a debt from a member of the Band named Bonifacio. Witness was at the compradore's office that day from 9 to 9.30 a.m., but was not there between 11 a.m. and noon. He did not get his money from Bonifacio, as he found that the latter had received his salary on the previous Saturday.

Mr. Douthitt renewed his application for the dismissal of the action and His Honour granted the motion and dismissed the charge.

Shanghai, February 17.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. v. J. C. EPPERLY.

This was a claim for Tls. 500, for rent of premises at No. 75 Szechuen Road.

Mr. F. Ellis and Mr. W. S. Fleming represented the plaintiffs and Mr. E. A. Douthitt appeared for the defence.

The plaintiffs' petition stated that on January 5, 1906, the defendant became the lessee of the premises and on July 14, 1906, the lease was renewed for a period of two years. It had been stipulated that the defendant should pay the plaintiffs a monthly rental of Tls. 125, and plaintiffs alleged that defendant had not paid the rental for the months of October, November and December, 1907 and January 1908, and there was, therefore, due them the sum of Tls. 500.

Peter Elster, sworn, stated that he had been the manager in Shanghai for Messrs. J. C. Epperly and Co. since September, 1907. During the year 1907, Mr. Epperly was in the United States, and in August witness received a cablegram from him to the effect that he was to discontinue the business of J. C. Epperly and Co. He closed up the business and vacated the premises at 76 Szechuen Road about the end of September, and informed the plaintiffs by letter.

Cross-examined—He had never received any answer to the letter. On vacating the premises he sent the keys by the office boy to Lane, Crawford, and Co. He had had no further communication at any time from the plaintiffs with regard to the premises.

Mr. Douthitt asked leave to introduce as evidence an advertisement appearing in the "North-China Daily News", offering the premises to be let.

Mr. Fleming said that the plaintiff admitted that these were the identical premises.

D. W. Crawford gave evidence to the effect that the lease which Mr. Epperly had of the premises had never been cancelled. The premises were still vacant.

The defendant admitted that he had asked for a renewal of the lease when it expired in 1906. He was then told that he could not have a renewal, and they continued the occupancy from month to month. He had forgotten all about the matter, but on looking it up had found a letter which had been written renewing the lease. That was the first intimation he had had that the lease had been renewed.

After hearing counsel, his Honour gave judgement for the plaintiffs with costs.

INQUEST.

Shanghai, February 17.

Before G. W. KING, Esq., CORONER.

RE DEATH OF E. DE BAVIER.

An inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of E. de Bavier, was opened at 44 Szechuen Road.

Heinrich Burkhardt stated that he was a silk inspector in the firm of Messrs. E. Bavier & Co. and he held a power of attorney jointly with Mr. E. M. Berthel. Witness identified the body he had just seen as that of Mr. Ernest de Bavier. Witness saw him last alive about a quarter of an hour before he shot himself. Mr. Bavier sent for witness and he was with him two or three minutes talking about business matters. This was a little after 11 a.m. and Mr. de Bavier was in bed. Deceased's No. 1 boy called witness from the silk godown, and he went at once. Deceased was lying as witness saw him in the coroner's presence. Mr. Berthel was in the room when witness arrived. When witness spoke to deceased last he was very depressed about business and he told witness he was very weak.

The inquest was adjourned until 2.30 p.m. Wednesday at H.B.M.'s Supreme Court.

Shanghai, February 19.

The inquest was resumed at H. M. Police Court into the circumstances attending the death of the late E. de Bavier, which occurred at No. 44 Szechuen Road on Monday morning, the 17th instant.

Dr. R. J. Marshall, sworn, said—I am a registered medical practitioner. Just before noon on Monday, on receipt of a telephone message, I went to No. 44 Szechuen Road and in a bedroom upstairs, I found the body of Mr. de Bavier. He was lying on his back on the bed, with the head slightly raised on the pillow. His mouth was open and blood was issuing from it. His right hand was clasping a revolver and lay, almost extended, on his lap. The body was quite warm, but there was no sign of life. Death must have taken place very shortly before. I examined the body and found a hole in the back of the head from which the bullet had escaped. The shot was fired through his mouth. The wound was caused by a revolver of similar calibre to the one now produced. That is the revolver I saw in deceased's hand. The bullet now shown to me and which was picked up in your presence, could have caused the wound I saw. From the position of the body I have no doubt that the wound was self-inflicted. I think that after the first shot, which was fired, say, into the mouth, there could have been muscular contraction sufficient to fire another shot, the revolver being still clasped in his hand.

H. Burkhardt (recalled) said—When I saw Mr. de Bavier on Monday we were talking about his business losses. I think he was especially depressed about his health. Our conversation was a very short one. I did not notice this revolver in his room that day. I noticed a letter addressed to Messrs. Burkhardt and Berthel. When Mr. de Bavier saw me looking at it, he turned it round. I saw him about 11 a.m. I knew he had been ill; for a few days past he had been in bed. Dr. von Schab was his medical attendant and last called to see him, I think, on Sunday. I was not astonished to see a letter addressed to us as when Mr. de Bavier wished to give important instructions he wrote them down.

E. M. Berthel, sworn, said—I am in the firm of Messrs. E. de Bavier & Co. and I held a power of attorney from Mr. de Bavier. On Monday Mr. de Bavier asked me to come to his room about 10.30 a.m. and we talked about business and other matters until about 10.55 a.m., when he gave me some business papers and said he would have another talk with me in the afternoon. I recognize this revolver; it is mine. Mr. de Bavier borrowed it from me about January 3 or 4. He asked me if I had a reliable revolver and I said "Yes." He asked me to bring it to the office. I brought two to the office and he chose this one. I asked him why he wanted it and he said that he was making a houseboat trip and they would shoot at bottles for amusement. He did not make the houseboat trip owing to the rainy wea-

ther. The revolver was lying on his desk in the office for five or six days, but after the middle of January I did not notice it any more. I did not trouble about getting it back. On Monday I noticed it hanging in a leather case on the bed-post. It was partly sticking out of the case. I looked at the revolver and I had a queer feeling. I had had this same feeling when he asked me for the revolver because he would not look me in the face. When I looked at the revolver Mr. de Bavier glanced at me. About 11.30 a.m. Mr. de Bavier's No. 1 houseboy, preceded by No. 1 office boy, came into my office and told me that Mr. de Bavier had shot himself. I went at once to his bedroom. I saw that his eyes were closed and blood was slowly trickling from his mouth. His pyjamas in front were sprinkled with blood. There was still smoke in the room. I sent the No. 1 houseboy for Mr. Burkhardt and in the meantime I felt his left pulse, which was still beating. I told Mr. Burkhardt that there was still life in him and we both ran down to the office to telephone for the doctor. The revolver was clasped in his right hand and was pointing towards the right shoulder. I did not notice any movement of the right hand. During my conversation with Mr. de Bavier on Monday morning he said that he did not feel ill, but that he did not want to get up as he was disgusted with the state of affairs.

Fong Wei-dong, the deceased's No. 1 houseboy, said that he had been in Mr. de Bavier's service for nine years. At 7.45 a.m. on Monday Mr. de Bavier had his bath and then went back to bed and had breakfast. At 10 a.m. he told witness to call Mr. Berthel and Mr. Burkhardt. At 11 a.m., when these gentlemen had gone away, Mr. de Bavier told witness to get him some notepaper and envelopes. Ten minutes later he told witness to remove the unused paper and envelopes, but not to touch the two written envelopes on the side table. At 11.30 a.m. witness was dozing, near the telephone, when he was aroused by the sound of a shot. He heard only one shot. He went immediately into Mr. de Bavier's bedroom and saw his master lying on the bed with his mouth open. Blood was running from his mouth. The revolver was clasped in his right hand, which was lying across his chest. The muzzle of the revolver was pointing upwards. Witness at once went downstairs and reported the matter to Mr. Burkhardt and Mr. Berthel, who then went upstairs.

By the Coroner—His master was not sick, but had lately been very depressed. Three days ago he complained that he had a headache. In other respects he seemed to be sane.

Dr. von Schab stated that he was the late Mr. de Bavier's medical attendant and had known him for four or five years. He had attended him five times during the past fortnight. Mr. de Bavier complained of sleeplessness and mental depression. Witness gave him some sleeping powders and a bro-

mide mixture. He last saw deceased alive on Sunday afternoon, when he spent about an hour in his company. He said he did not feel well. Witness thought Mr. de Bavier called him in to have a friendly chat more than for anything else. He was not really sick; he had no bodily ailment. It was more mental depression than sickness. Witness was not alarmed at his condition, but thought that he was annoyed about something.

This concluded the evidence, and the Coroner found that Ernest de Bavier died from a bullet wound in the head at about 11.30 a.m. on February 17, 1908, and that such wound was self-inflicted whilst the deceased was in a depressed mental condition caused by business worries.

THE MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, February 14.
Before Mr. S. Y. WONG (Assistant Magistrate) and Mr. S. BARTON (British Assessor).

NOT PROVEN.

A coolie, two houseboys and an unemployed native were brought up on remand charged with the theft of a considerable quantity of jewellery, valued at \$300, from the house of Mr. Page, No. 19 Weihaiwei Road, on January 25. The coolie was further charged with the theft of an article of clothing, the property of the same complainant.

The evidence showed that on the night of January 25 the foreign occupants of No. 19 Weihaiwei Road were away from home and the house was in the servants' charge. The two houseboys also went out and in their absence the coolie was visited by a friend—the fourth defendant. When the foreign occupants returned home they found the door of the house unlocked and later discovered that the articles of jewellery mentioned in the first charge were missing from a bedroom. The Police made a thorough investigation, but failed to find any trace of the missing jewellery, nor could they gather any direct evidence against the defendants, but in searching the coolie's boxes Detective-Sergeant Bray found an article of clothing, the property of Miss Page.

On the first charge the defendants were released upon giving security, as there was not sufficient evidence to secure a conviction, and on the second charge the coolie was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

BICYCLE THIEVES PUNISHED.

Two unemployed natives were brought up on remand charged with the theft of seven bicycles on various dates during December and January.

When the case was first heard the defendants were ordered to pay into Court the sum of \$600—the value of the stolen bicycles—and were released on security to enable them to raise the money. Failing to pay this amount they were re-arrested and again brought before the Court and remanded for further inquiries.

The Court now decided that there was not sufficient evidence against the prisoners concerning the theft of six of the bicycles and these charges were dismissed. The prisoners were found guilty of the theft of the seventh bicycle, and on this charge were sentenced to one month's imprisonment, to date from January 13, the date upon which they were re-arrested.

THIS WEARY WORLD.

A man charged with attempting to commit suicide by swallowing raw opium was severely cautioned by the Magistrate and released from custody.

CONTEMPT OF COURT.

An ex-convict was charged with returning to the Settlement after having been expelled therefrom by order of the Court.

The evidence showed that on January 14 the defendant was sentenced to one month's imprisonment and was released on the 14th instant and transferred outside the Settlements limits, but was re-arrested inside the Settlement the same day.

The defendant was ordered to be again expelled.

Before Mr. PAO (Magistrate) and Mr. BARR (Assistant British Assessor).

A DESPICABLE CHARACTER.

A native named Liang Nyok-sing was charged with having bought a girl, aged fifteen years, for the sum of \$60 in June 1897 and having brought her to Shanghai for immoral purposes and with having lived on the proceeds since July 1907.

The facts which brought the defendant's mode of living to light and upon which the Police based the above charge, were related by Detective-Sub-Inspector FitzGibbon to be as follows:—

At 7 p.m. on Saturday, the 8th instant, the woman mentioned in the charge was sent out by the defendant and returned at 11 p.m. accompanied by a man she had met in Sinza district. After a short stay in the house, the guest went away, after paying the amah \$2.50, which money the amah gave to the defendant. At 1 a.m. the defendant, who was a restless sleeper on account of his addiction to opium-smoking, awoke and noticed that the door of the woman's bedroom was ajar. He entered her room and invited her to smoke opium, but she refused and told him that the man whom she had brought to the house had brought three bottles of medicine, which he told her to take. She refused to drink the medicine, but the man forced the contents of one bottle down her throat by holding her nose. After his departure she found out that a silver watch was missing from her room. Shortly after her conversation with the defendant the woman became unconscious and at 3.30 a.m. the defendant reported the matter at Louza Station and also reported the theft of the watch. The Police visited the defendant's house, and on entering the room where the woman lay, saw a man's overcoat on a chair and three bottles on a table near the bed. One

of the bottles contained nitric and muriatic acid, another contained some medicinal powder and the third was empty, but was afterwards found to have previously contained spirits of chloroform. The overcoat was said to have been left behind by the man who had visited the house. The woman was taken to Shantung Road Hospital, but never regained consciousness and died at 6 a.m. on Monday, the 10th instant. The amah was present when the woman was removed to the Hospital, but had since disappeared and no trace of her could be found.

The defendant admitted the truth of the charge made against him and corroborated Detective-Sub-Inspector FitzGibbons' statement of the circumstances which led to the woman's death.

A neighbour gave evidence to the effect that the defendant and the deceased had always lived happily together since they became her neighbours and said she had never heard them quarrel.

The Magistrate said that although the defendant could not be charged with having caused the woman's death, he must be convicted and punished on the charge brought against him. If it had not been for his disgraceful conduct in compelling his wife to lead the life she did to support him, the woman would have been alive to-day.

The defendant was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.

WHEN THIEVES FALL OUT.

A lodging house servant was charged with the larceny of two diamond rings and a gold bangle, valued at \$500, from a lodging-house, No. 142 Tientsin Road, on December 14, 1907, and a jade-stone broker and his wife were charged with receiving the said articles, well knowing the same to have been stolen.

Detective-Sub-Inspector FitzGibbon stated that in the early part of December last a mandarin's son from Huchon took lodgings at No. 142 Tientsin Road and on December 14 went out with a friend after first locking up his jewellery and delivering the key of his room to one of the lodging-house servants. On his return he received his key from the book-keeper, but on entering his room found that his jewellery had been stolen. The matter was reported to the Police and three of the lodging-house servants were arrested on suspicion, but were eventually discharged, as there was no evidence against them. This week one of the three servants who were first charged visited the jade-stone broker to dispose of part of the stolen jewellery. The jade-stone broker would not pay what the man asked and offered a low price, saying that he knew the servant had acquired the jewellery dishonestly. An altercation ensued, as a result of which the matter came to the knowledge of the Police and the defendants were arrested. It was afterwards discovered that the female defendant had already pawned one of the stolen rings for \$200.

Detective-Sub-Inspector FitzGibbon asked for a remand to enable the complainant to give evidence.

The prisoners were remanded in custody for one week.

HARBOURING THIEVES.

The proprietor of a lodging-house, No. 673 Chekiang Road, was charged with a breach of the conditions of his licence by failing to keep a register of the guests in his house, and was further charged with harbouring thieves on his premises.

Detective-Sergeant Macdonald pointed out that a few days ago he arrested four well-known thieves in the defendant's house.

The defendant was sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment and the Court ordered his licence to be confiscated.

Shanghai, February 15.

Before Mr. WANG (Magistrate) and Dr. SCHIRMER (German Assessor).

BURGLARY.

Two natives were charged with having broken into an opium shop in Carter Road during the month of January and with stealing therefrom jewellery to the value of \$100 and \$400 in bank-notes.

Detective-sergeant Cruickshank said that after making careful inquiries he suspected the defendants and on searching their house in Burkill Road he found a box containing burglar's tools. These tools were such as might have caused certain marks on the woodwork of the opium shop in Carter Road which had been broken into.

One of the accused was sentenced to six months' and the other to two months' imprisonment; both to be expelled from the Settlement.

CONCEALING THE EVIDENCE.

A native was charged with the larceny of a gold ring from a friend in Dixwell Road on the 14th instant.

Detective-sergeant MacCabe stated that the accused was arrested by a native detective with the ring in his possession, but immediately after his arrest he swallowed the ring.

The Court ordered the man to be sent to St. Luke's Hospital for treatment and to be brought before the Court again when he had recovered from the effects of his unusual meal.

THEFT OF GAS FITTINGS.

For stealing a quantity of gas fittings from the house of Mr. J. Regani, No. 14 Boone Road, a native was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment.

DISHONEST BOATMEN.

Two boatmen were charged with the theft of a number of lamps, valued at \$50, the property of Messrs. Borne-man & Co., on the 14th instant, and a third defendant was charged with receiving the lamps, well knowing the same to have been stolen.

Detective-sergeant Bray related the facts of the case and the boatmen were sentenced to five months' and three months' imprisonment, respectively, and the receiver to three months' imprisonment.

THIS WEARY WORLD.

A native of Wusieh was charged with having attempted to commit suicide at 8.45 p.m. on the 14th instant by hanging himself to a tree in Ward Road.

At the time mentioned, a foreigner who was walking along Ward Road saw the defendant leaning against a tree, crying. On looking at the man more closely, the foreigner saw that he had a rope twisted tightly around his neck and was making the other end fast to a branch of the tree. The man stated that he had no money and no friends and had been without food for two days. He was arrested by the Police and supplied with a hearty meal.

The Magistrate severely cautioned the defendant and ordered that he be sent to his native place. He was also supplied with \$1 from the Court funds to enable him to reach his home.

A GAMBLING RAID.

Ten boatmen were charged with publicly gambling with dice, dominoes, etc., in a licensed tea-shop, No. 75 Tong-gee-bai-ka on the 14th instant. The proprietor of the tea-shop and his assistant were charged with permitting gambling on their licenses premises.

The boatmen were fined \$5 each and the proprietor of the tea-shop was fined \$50 and his assistant \$40. The licence for the tea-shop was cancelled by order of the Court.

ATTEMPTED ARMED ROBBERY.

A native was charged with having been concerned with others not in custody in attempting to rob a native complainant near the corner of Hankow and Szechuen Roads at 11 p.m. on the 14th instant.

Detective-sergeant Gibson said that at 11 p.m. on the 14th instant the complainant and his little son were returning from the native city in a ricksha and when near the corner of Hankow and Szechuen Roads the ricksha was tilted over backwards by a number of men who were armed with knives and revolvers. The men demanded money from the complainant, but fled upon seeing a foreigner approaching. The accused was arrested by the foreigner and handed over to a native constable.

The accused was remanded in custody for one week to give the Police an opportunity to make further arrests.

Shanghai, February 17.

Before Mr. PAO YI (Magistrate) and Mr. S. BARTON (British Assessor).

A SHOP ASSISTANT'S MISTAKE.

Miss Francis Laprieto appeared in answer to a Mixed Court summons to show cause why she had failed to return a lace skirt purchased by her at the store of Messrs. Kuhn & Co. and sold to her in error, the price having been mis-stated.

Mr. N. C. Home represented the complainant and Mr. T. Morgan Phillips appeared for the defence.

The Assessor explained that the summons issued by the Magistrate was a civil process. It was a question whether or not there had been a valid sale or not.

Mr. Home said that the complainant was the proprietor of the business of Messrs. Kuhn & Co., who carried on business in Nanking Road. On Saturday afternoon, the 8th instant, the defendant entered the complainant's shop during the tiffin hour, when there were only Japanese assistants in charge of the shop. She saw a lace skirt marked \$350 in very plain figures. She had been to the shop on a previous occasion to inquire the price of the skirt and had been told that its price was \$350. The Japanese assistant who showed her the skirt on the 8th instant had very little knowledge of English, but the defendant examined the ticket and told him that the price thereon was \$35. The assistant, trusting to her truthfulness and honesty, believed what she said and on payment of \$35 allowed her to take the skirt away. She did not wish the assistant to remove the ticket from the article, but he did so for the purpose of handing same to his employer. The defendant took the skirt away and also another article which she had purchased there. The Japanese assistant did not know then who the woman was and could not tell his master, but subsequently he saw her in Nanking Road and after following her home, discovered who she was. Later the complainant saw the defendant, who at first denied that she had been in the shop that day, but afterwards admitted having purchased the skirt. She also declined to return the skirt. The actual cost of the article was \$325 and no person having acquaintance with such matters could possibly think that such an article could be bought for \$35.

G. M. Boyes stated that he was the proprietor of the business of Messrs. Kuhn & Co., Nanking Road. He had known the defendant about six months. She had visited his store from time to time, and about four weeks previous to February 8 had been to the shop and asked the price of the lace skirt. She was then told that the price was \$350. The actual cost of the skirt and the top part was \$325. The skirt was what was known as Sicawei hand-made lace—lace made in the Sicawei Convent—and was so well known in Shanghai that no-one could expect to buy such an article for \$35. Attached to the skirt was a ticket (produced) marked \$350. The assistants were instructed to retain the tickets of articles sold to enable witness to make the necessary entries in the stock book against the articles sold. On the 8th instant witness was absent from the store during the tiffin hour and on his return the assistant brought him \$48 and two tickets—one marked \$350 and another marked \$13. The \$13 ticket referred to another lace article purchased by the defendant. The assistant told witness what had occurred, and witness reprimanded him. The assistant said he thought he could find the lady, and the next day he saw her in a carriage with a gentleman. He found out who she was and on Sunday night witness went to see her. She first told witness that

she had not been in the store on the 8th instant, but when witness told her that the shop assistant recognized her, she admitted having purchased the skirt. Witness talked to her in a friendly way and told her he could not afford to lose so much money. She was very obstinate, however, and he left her.

Cross-examined—Witness had seen the defendant in his shop on four or five occasions previous to the 8th instant. She had made other purchases at the store. A credit account was opened for one purchase she had made and she subsequently made payment without witness having made any application. Witness treated her as an ordinary customer. Her general appearance was in her favour and he allowed her credit. He had not made any inquiries about her from other tradesmen and had not questioned Messrs. Sennett Frères about her. When she inquired the price of the skirt four weeks previous to the 8th instant, it was in the same place as on the 8th instant—in a box near the door of the shop. At one time it was hanging up in the window in a prominent position, but was not there when she asked the price. When she asked the price she examined the garment and afterwards it was replaced in the box. This was just before Christmas. Almost every lady in Shanghai knew this Sicawei lace and witness thought the defendant knew its value. The Japanese assistant who sold the skirt had been in witness's employment for about one year. He spoke very little English, but understood some figures. In this particular instance he evidently did not know the difference between \$35 and \$350. In other cases he understood figures. The tickets attached to the goods were for the guidance of witness and his assistants. All the prices were marked in plain figures. Witness saw the defendant on Sunday, the 9th instant, and behaved quite civilly towards her. He totally denied that he was uncivil in any way. The defendant at first absolutely denied that she had been in witness's store on the 8th instant. When the Japanese assistant said "That is the lady," defendant admitted that it was she who had purchased the skirt. Witness's attitude was not offensive in any way. Witness did not communicate with the Press in any way except to insert an advertisement in the "North-China Daily News." The paragraph in an evening paper, which mentioned the defendant's name in connexion with this matter, was not the result of information supplied by witness. On Monday, the 10th instant, witness put the matter into the hands of the Police and Inspector McDowell went to see the defendant. Witness did not instruct him to state that defendant had defrauded Kuhn & Co. or that this was practically the same as larceny. Witness did not apply to the Police for the issuance of a criminal warrant. He left the matter in the hands of his lawyers. He had not accused the defendant of having any criminal intention. When he entered the Court that morning he understood

that this was a civil action. He did not deny that his shop assistant sold the skirt to the defendant for \$35. His assistant believed the lady when she said the ticket was marked \$35. He believed his assistant's story of the transaction. It was important in witness's business that he should have assistants upon whom he could depend and whom he could trust.

A Japanese assistant of Messrs. Kuhn & Co. said that on the 8th instant the defendant entered the store during the tiffin hour and looked at the lace skirt. She said "35," and he said "Yes." She then told him to pack it up and told him to hurry up. She was in such a hurry that he had not time to tie up the parcel properly. There was a ticket on the skirt and the lady looked at it again and again and afterwards mentioned the price as being \$35. The lady was in such a hurry that he had some difficulty in removing the ticket, but he took it off, as he was afraid his master would be angry if he failed to do so. The next day he saw the defendant in the street and by following her, discovered who she was.

Mr. Home said this concluded the evidence in support of the complainant's case.

Mr. Morgan Phillips called the defendant, who stated that she was the proprietress of the Jessfield Club and had been in Shanghai, at intervals, for some time past. On Saturday, the 8th instant, she went into Messrs. Kuhn & Co.'s store about noon, with the intention of purchasing a cup for a prize to be given at a masquerade ball at the Jessfield Club. She looked round the store, but did not meet with what she wanted. Then she saw the lace skirt lying open in a box on a table. She had previously purchased three pieces of similar lace for \$13, and seeing that they matched the skirt, asked the Japanese assistant the price of the skirt. He took the skirt to another assistant, and when he returned said that the price was \$35. Witness then purchased the skirt for \$35 and paid for it. There were other customers in the shop at the time, including two ladies and one gentleman, and witness's business manager was also with her. She did not see any ticket on the skirt and the shop assistant did not show her the ticket. It was not true that she looked at the ticket and said "\$35". She did not suggest the price. It was not her business so to do. She asked the assistant the price and supposed that he was there to give such information. She did not ask for the ticket and did not tell the assistant to hurry up. She asked the price in English and the assistant replied in English. She did not speak Japanese. When she went into the shop she did not know whether Mr. Boyes was there or not. She did not know whether she had seen that particular skirt on any previous occasion or not. She had never had it in her hands before the 8th instant to her knowledge. She was not an expert in the purchase of Sicawei lace and had never bought any before.

A short time before Christmas she was in the store, making some purchases, and asked Mr. Boyes the price of a lace dress that was in the window. He told her the price, but she did not now remember what he said, and she took no further interest in the dress. She purchased the three pieces of lace and the lace skirt on the 8th instant, because she thought they were worth buying. She did not take any advantage of the shop assistant in order to obtain the skirt at a less price than its value. On the 9th instant Mr. Boyes visited her at the Jessfield Club, and was accompanied by the Japanese assistant. He asked the assistant if witness was the lady who had bought the shawl, and the assistant said she was. Mr. Boyes then asked witness if she had bought the lace skirt at his store the previous day and she said she had. He said that there had been a mistake and he wanted the skirt back. He was very impudent and said that if she did not return the skirt he would take steps to get it back. Witness asked him to explain why she should give it back, saying that she was not responsible for the mistakes of his employees. If Mr. Boyes had approached her in a reasonable way she would have returned the skirt. The next day Inspector McDowell called and said that Messrs. Kuhn & Co. had put the matter into the hands of the Police, and that he thought witness ought to return the skirt if she had any regard for honesty. Witness replied that she did not know why she should return the article or why she should be responsible for the mistake of Messrs. Kuhn & Co.'s employee. On the following Tuesday witness took the skirt to the Central Police Station and handed it to the Captain-Superintendent of Police, explaining to him all the circumstances and complaining of the conduct of Mr. Boyes and Inspector McDowell. She stated that an injustice had been done to her, but expressed her willingness to return the skirt to Messrs. Kuhn & Co. if they would apologize to her for sending the Police to her residence and upon receipt of the money which she had paid for the skirt. On Wednesday Detective-Sergeant Roche called and said that Messrs. Kuhn & Co. had refused her offer. She had seen the advertisement in the morning newspaper and the paragraph in the evening newspaper, and these had caused her much annoyance.

Cross-examined—She had been in Shanghai at intervals since 1905. In the meantime she had visited Peking, Hongkong, the United States, and had recently returned from a trip to Europe. She had been in Japan, but only remained there for the short period between the change of steamers in passing through. Before she entered Kuhn & Co.'s store on the 8th instant she had never purchased convent hand-made lace and did not know its value.

A. D. McGagner, business manager of the Jessfield Club, gave corroborative evidence.

Cross-examined he said that he had been a bar-tender all his life, but was now employed as business manager by

the defendant. He was present during the interview between Mr. Boyes and the defendant, but though Mr. Boyes used insulting terms, he did not feel called upon to interfere until the defendant requested him to do so.

Mr. Morgan Phillips then addressed the Court and said that he had come there in the belief that he would have to defend a criminal action. The defendant had appeared in order to clear her character against the insinuations of dishonesty made by the complainant. He characterized the present action as a venomous and abusive proceeding and an abuse of the process of the Court.

Mr. Home summarized the evidence given on behalf of the plaintiff and suggested that the defendant's story was "bluff" throughout.

The Court found that the defendant had obtained, through the mistake of one of the complainant's employees, goods to the value of \$350 for the payment of \$35. When the complainant immediately afterwards visited the defendant, she admitted the mistake and was willing to return the goods, but refused to do so until she received an apology to which she considered she was entitled for the manner in which the complainant had acted in the matter. The Court held that there was nothing in the evidence to support the defendant's contention as to improper conduct on the part of the complainant, and ordered that the defendant should return the lace skirt and that the complainant firm should return to the defendant the money expended on the same.

A CARELESS HOUSEBOY.

Det.-Inspector McDowell charged a house-boy in the employ of Mr. W. Funder with gross carelessness in causing an outbreak of fire to occur in the third floor of the premises, No. 4 The Bund, at 8.40 p.m. on the 15th instant.

The details of the case, as given in evidence by Inspector McDowell, correspond with those given in the account of the fire reported in another column.

Mr. Funder said that he had occupied the same premises for the past two years. The defendant had been employed by him for many months and had always done work well. It was true that the defendant had never at any time called his attention to the defective grate.

The Assessor said that although the defendant should have called his master's attention to the defect in the fire-grate, yet it was hardly his duty to look after the fittings of the premises.

The defendant was dismissed with a caution.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

Many so-called women's complaints can be traced to disorders of the liver, stomach and bowels. A woman's work is more or less sedentary; she does not get the fresh air, the exercise, or the regular hours of rest that a man does, so that the liver becomes sluggish, the system does not get the rest it needs,

and there is not a regular motion of the bowels. Constipation is one of the worst dangers a woman has to fear, and the longer it is neglected, the more deeply rooted it becomes. The bowels are swollen and enlarged, thus displacing members of the female organism, and causing stomach pains, difficulty in breathing, windy spasms, headache, vomiting, a feeling of fullness after meals, bloodlessness, etc. But men who are constipated suffer from these same symptoms, so that it cannot be female trouble. When the constipation is cured, the distressing complaints will quickly disappear. Doan's Dinner Pills give tone and new vigour to the muscular walls of the colon, and soften the mass of waste matter, so that the bowels act naturally, and discharge the clogging impurities. A box of Doan's Pills should always be kept in the house, and a dose taken when the bowels have been inactive, or whenever food disagrees, or when there is a feeling of heaviness and discomfort in the region of the stomach. This medicine is purely vegetable, and perfectly harmless for men or women, young and old.

The sufferer from "habitual" constipation should take a regular walk every day, drink plenty of pure water, and breathe deeply, not only while Doan's Dinner Pills are being used, but afterwards, then no return of the disorder need be feared.

Doan's Dinner Pills are the best medicine for biliousness, indigestion, constipation, for headache, retching, dizziness, distress after eating, poor appetite, yellow eyes, heartburn, wind, and for every liver, stomach and bowel trouble.

Doan's Dinner Pills are 1/1½ a box, or 6 boxes for 5/. Of all chemists and medicine-dealers, or direct from the proprietors, the Foster-McClellan Co., S. Wells Street, Oxford Street, London, England, post free on receipt of price.

HAVE YOU SKIN DISEASE? Eczema? Ringworm? Itching Piles? The first application of Doan's Ointment will relieve you, and the Ointment will be found a lasting cure for every form of Itching Skin Complaint. The price of Doan's Ointment is 2/9 a pot, or 13/9 for 6 pots, and it is sold by all chemists, or may be had direct from the proprietors, the Foster-McClellan Co., 8, Wells Street, Oxford Street, London, England.

BIRTHS.

BOWERMAN.—On February 15, 1908, at No. 6 Chusan Road, Shanghai, the wife of R. J. Bowerman of a daughter.

CROSSLEY.—On February 17, 1908, at 34 Markham Road, the wife of F. H. Crossley, of a daughter.

LOUREIRO.—On February 9, 1908, at Weihaiwei, the wife of J. A. W. Loureiro, of a son (stillborn).

SPATHE.—On February 17, 1908, at No. 6 Park Lane, Shanghai, the wife of H. Späthe, of a son.

MORLAND.—On January 26, 1908, at Elmswood, Whalley Range, Manchester, the wife of Lieutenant H. Morland, Royal Indian Marine, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

McRAE — WOODWARD.—On February 17, 1908, at St. John's Pro-Cathedral Shanghai, in the presence of the United States Consul-General, by the Rt. Rev. F. R. Graves D.D., Miss Sarah Nicoll Woodward, to the Rev. Cameron Farquhar McRae.

SMITH—BORST.—On February 16, 1908, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, Rev. Ernest Frank Smith, of the Baptist Missionary Society, Sianfu, Shensi, to Mary Elizabeth Borst, only daughter of the late Rev. Frederick Borst, of London.

JENKINS — LOVERIDGE.—On February 16, 1908, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. A. J. Walker, M.A., Herbert Stanley Jenkins, M.D., F.R.C.S., of Clifton Bristol, England, and the English Baptist Mission, Sianfu, Shensi, North-China, to M. L. (Daisy) Loveridge, late of Wu Chêng, Kiangsi, eldest daughter of Thos Loveridge, Esq., of Llanduff, S. Wales.

MONKMAN — ROACH.—On February 18, 1908, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, before Sir Pelham Warren, K.C.M.G., and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. A. J. Walker, M.A. Captain Edwin L. Monkman, C. N. Co.'s S. S. Tientsin, to Mary (Janie) Bain, eldest daughter of J. B. Roach, Esq., Electricity Works, Shanghai.

DEATHS.

DE HEES.—On February 9, 1908, at Hankow, Master Arthur Paul, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul de Hees, aged 5 years and 11 months.

BUCHERER.—On February 14, 1908, at Edinburgh, Emma, widow of C. W. Bucherer, Ph. D., and dearly beloved mother of Mrs. A. A. Crawford.

OZORIO.—On February 16, 1908, at 79 Range Road, Severina Maria Ozorio, widow of the late Francisco A. Ozorio of Hongkong, aged 52 years.

BAVIER.—On February 17, 1908, at 42 Szechuen Road, Ernest de Bavier, aged 62 years.

PASSENGERS.

OUTWARD.

Per str. **KIANGYUNG**, Feb. 12.—For Nanking—Mr. Tsing.
Per str. **KIANGTEEN**, Feb. 13.—From Ningpo—Miss orton.

Per str. **OCEANEN**, Feb. 13.—For Hongkong—Mrs. Leven, Mrs. Lena Dunn, Messrs. N. A. Lauff, Laporte, Nirruheim, G. Gilderhaus, Engel and family, A. Suncion, V. A. Nicolaides, and Jolly. For Saigon—Messrs. G. Olivier, Convert, Huppé, and Panuand. For Singapore—Messrs. J. L. Smith, T. Schwartz, F. Kohora, Kaneko, Haraguchi, Akaeshi, Kuroda, and Chiba, For Marseilles—Mrs. Murat and two children, Mrs. Bell, Messrs. Mayer, René Katz, E. Sandri, Fléjon, Fleurot, and Charvet.

Per str. **LOKSANG**, Feb. 14.—For Foochow—Mrs. Chaplain, Miss I. Seif, and Mr. C. J. Farrow.

Per str. **LOONGOW**, Feb. 14.—For Hankow—Misses McGill and Moore, Messrs. H. J. Everall and F. Bornemann.

Per str. **MEIFOO**, Feb. 15.—For Hongkong—Dr. W. W. Myers, and Mr. A. Bernsdorf.

Per str. **CHINGPING**, Feb. 14.—For Tientsin—Mrs. N. Sutherland, Messrs. Chang Kan-cho and Chun. For Peking—Mr. J. M. Pavitt, and Taotai Chu Ling-kwan.

Per str. **EMPEROR OF JAPAN**, Feb. 16.—For London—Mr. Charles Harpur. For Yokohama—Messrs. A. Howe and N. Suda. For Nagasaki—Mr. J. A. Cameron. For New York—Mr. Florian Krug.

Per str. **KWONGSANG**, Feb. 15.—For Canton—Mr. and Mrs. Howard and child.

Per str. **LIMAO**, Feb. 17.—For Hankow—Chev. G. Vigna dal Ferro, Chev. G. Fighola, Messrs. Bouillard, Caissial, and Blum.

Per str. **KAIPING**, Feb. 17.—For Chinwangtao—Sergt. Donaghue. For Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Riches, Messrs. H. W. Fulton, S. J. Betines, H. J. Sharp, W. N. Fleming, Watts, G. T. Edkins, J. Brown, and W. H. Steele. For Peking—Miss A. Testoni, Messrs. T. Acciare, and A. Acosta.

Per str. **TATUNG**, Feb. 16.—For Tungchow—Mr. E. W. Turner. For Nanking—Miss Purcell. For Wuhu—Mr. J. T. W. Booke. For Kiukiang—Mr. C. F. Vincent. For Hankow—Messrs. W. H. C. Whigham and W. Birchenough.

Per str. **KIANGHSIN**, Feb. 17.—For Wuhu—Messrs. Agnew and T. R. Jernigan. For Ngankin—Rev. and Mrs. McRae.

Per str. **DEVANHA**, Feb. 18.—For Hongkong—Mrs. F. S. Spencer and child, Capt. Scott, Messrs. L. G. Jolly, Korthals Altes, E. Nissim, R. S. Pratt, E. Gregg, F. St. Goar, Von Kennitz, L. Greenwald, E. L. Gruber, W. Bryden, C. Stockhausen, and F. J. Abbott. For Singapore—Mr. J. A. Delay. For Marseilles—Archdeacon and Mrs. A. E. Moule, and the Rev. W. Crabtree. For London—Mrs. and Miss Hajeem, Miss Hart, Capt. W. S. Thomas, Messrs. David Smith and J. E. Chubb.

Per str. **TUCKWO**, Feb. 18.—For Hankow—Capt. and Mrs. King, Mr. and Mrs. C. Pardee, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Campbell and two children, Revs. C. S. Minty and W. Deans, and Mr. J. A. Thomson.

Per str. **TAMSUI**, Feb. 18.—For Amoy—Mr. Forrester.

Per str. **PEKIN**, Feb. 17.—For Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Yuen.

Per str. **KWANGTAH**, Feb. 22.—For Canton—Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Bell and child.

Per str. **LIMAO**, Feb. 17.—For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Verard, and Mr. Niviere.

Per str. **ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ**, Feb. 19.—For Tsingtao, Chefoo, and Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Augustesen, Consul Lenz, Messrs. Otto Ritthausen, Forkel, Bastian, Cerepa, P. Lerion, Loehlein, Siebert, Frickhofer, Van der Loo, E. D. Baines, and J. Mileck.

Per str. **KWANGPING**, Feb. 19.—For Chinwangtao—Col. Scott-Moncrieff, and Mr. Baumgartner. For Tientsin—Messrs. Th. Van Hunt, and A. Sinclair.

INWARD.

Per str. **KOSAI MARU**, Feb. 12.—From Japan—Mr. and Mrs. S. Kodama, Mr. and Mrs. T. Kishida, Mr. and Mrs. M. Maruoka, Mrs. Y. Takayama, Misses M. C. Moore, C. B. McGill, H. Beygran, S. Nomura, Mrs. T. Ohara, Messrs. J. Dughton, E. Tamburini, R. M. Eisenstark, I. Hayashi, H. Ishiwatari, C. Kanda, H. Yoneda, R. Honjio, K. Kawakado, R. Honjio, and K. Oteki.

Per str. **PEKIN**, Feb. 14.—From Ningpo—Archdeacon and Mrs. Moule, Rev. J. H. Moule, and Mr. Black.

Per str. **KAIPING**, Feb. 14.—From Tientsin—Sgt. Donoghue, Messrs. P. Stave, G. T. Edkins, R. S. Pratt, F. P. Bartley, and A. Blakeson. From Peking—Mr. L. King.

Per str. **GOEBEN**, Feb. 15.—From Southampton—Misses Boardley, Murfitt, and M. E. Borst, Messrs. E. D. Baines, W. H. Steel, J. Brown, Revs. W. A. Cornaby, and C. S. Minty. From Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. H. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Moule and child, Miss K. Branz, Messrs. H. Frickhoeffer, O. von Alemann, Alfonso Acosta, T. Jorges, and F. McLavy. From Naples—Mrs. Testoni Annetta, Messrs. Giacomo Acciari and A. E. Andersen. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Tennent, Miss Gardner, and Mr. T. A. Thomson. From Hongkong—Mrs. Dobrjitska, Miss P. Mur, Messrs. L. S. Gotton, Shabbeth, J. A. B. Ezra, Fred. G. Whittek, G. H. Woodward, L. Ahlers, Barbey, W. Bohlen, T. Kasturin, T. Chaki, Elias Isaac, I. Klopper and daughter, and Yamaguchi.

Per str. **KIANGTEEN**, Feb. 15.—From Ningpo—Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Sheppard, and Rev. Silcock.

Per str. **MEILEE**, Feb. 14.—From Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Zeikon, and Mr. Fromme.

Per str. **LIANGCHOW**, Feb. 15.—From Swatow—Mr. Marti.

Per str. **TUCKWO**, Feb. 16.—From Hankow and Ports—Mrs. Pitcairn and child, Mrs. Arranger, Rev. A. Paul, and Karanjia, Messrs. Reynolds, Rozarlo, Nahuafels.

Per str. **LIMAO**, Feb. 16.—From Hankow and Ports—Mrs. Jonaton, Messrs. Malone and Stanhout.

Per str. **SHUNTEN**, Feb. 15.—From Chefoo—Mrs. Lavers, and Miss Filley.

Per str. PEKIN, Feb. 16.—From Ningpo—Mrs. Cohen, and Mr. T. Y. Pearson.

Per str. EMPRESS OF JAPAN, Feb. 15.—From Hongkong—Misses (2) E. Badnell, Messrs. R. Paterson, W. F. Wingrove, R. N. Thurston, and W. Farquharson.

Per str. ADMIRAL VON TIRPITZ, Feb. 17.—From Tsingtao, Chefoo, and Tientsin—Dr. E. B. and Miss A. Hartwell, Mrs. C. W. Printt, Miss Flotokomen, Messrs. P. Veit, Schutt, Brandeis, Schlumbohm, Lutkie, H. Reuter, Giberga, Danziger, Pantuch, P. Sorabshaw, A. Flohr, and C. P. Kelly.

Per str. KWANGPING, Feb. 16.—From Tientsin—Mr. Sinclair.

Per str. LIMAO, Feb. 16.—From Wuhu—Masters Sharnhorst and Malone. From Nanking—Mrs. Johnston.

Per str. MEISHUN, Feb. 17.—From Hankow—Mr. Baker.

Per str. KIANGTEEN, Feb. 18.—From Ningpo—Mrs. Northcombe.

Per str. LITA, Feb. 18.—From Ningpo—Rev. Father Faveau.

Per str. AKI MARU, Feb. 18.—From Japan—Mr. and Mrs. T. Ishifuji, Messrs. A. Blass, K. Ono, K. Ohtake, and K. Morimoto.

Per str. WAISHING, Feb. 18.—From Hongkong and Swatow—Mr. Baumgarten.

Per str. KIANGKUAN, Feb. 18.—From Hankow and Ports—Mr. and Mrs. Muller, Messrs. Sze Wong, Brooks, Zaeffer, Wirthumber, and Anape.

Per str. MANCHURIA, Feb. 18.—From Hongkong—Col. and Mrs. Scott Moncrieff, Mrs. and Master Lello, Mr. and Mrs. Landale and two children, Miss Louriero, Messrs. T. C. Vernon, K. E. Kadoorie, C. E. Ellis, J. A. Hayes, J. Bernhard, R. H. Clark, E.

U. Reid, J. Johnstone, G. Dallas, W. G. Pirie, and C. W. Rosenstock.

Per str. HAKUAI MARU, Feb. 19.—From Japan—Mr. and Mrs. T. Namagawa, Mrs. M. Kato, Capt. K. Sekino, Messrs. F. W. Evans, H. Komatsu, K. Yekara, J. Kreutziger, Y. Matsuoka, S. Aoki, K. Shimozaka, S. Yoshinaga, U. Nishibori, M. Matsumoto, T. Umihara, and T. Tabe.

THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

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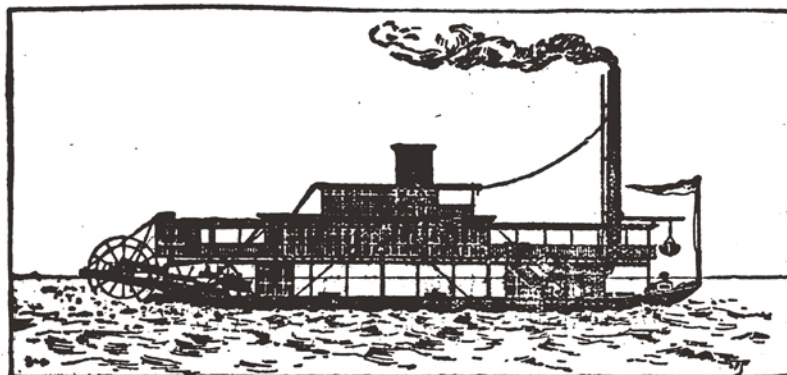
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18aa-08 367

August 16, 1907.

LATE NEWS SUPPLEMENT

NORTH-CHINA HERALD & S. C. & C. GAZETTE.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21 1908

THE KING'S SPEECH.

February 21.

THE King's Speech delivered at the reopening of Parliament on January 29, of which the full text has now reached us, cannot be said to lack comprehensiveness. In two particulars, it is true, the Speech is noticeably silent. There is no further reference this year to that friction between the Lords and the Commons which was a striking feature of the last Speech. Outside the House, Ministers continue to breathe forth threatenings and slaughter against the Peers; but it is difficult to see how their words are to be substantiated, unless Government decides to go to the country on the issue, and this step at present Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman clearly has no intention of taking. In the second place we notice that Ireland is dismissed with proposals to improve and extend its University education, and to amend the Land Purchase Act of 1903 "especially with reference to the compulsory acquisition of untenanted land." It is regrettable that Englishmen have never been able to persuade themselves to give that close attention to the Irish question which is essential, if it is to be thoroughly understood. The scantiness of the Speech, therefore, on this subject might have passed unobserved were it not for the present deplorable condition of Ireland, which has fallen within two years from a state of comparative peacefulness into something that borders closely upon anarchy. The game that the Nationalists are playing is quite clear: if they cannot persuade Government to give them what they want by fair means, they are quite ready to try foul, secure in the conviction that their excesses will be as far as possible overlooked. Meanwhile there is a growing apprehension among Unionists that the Government is keeping some measure of Home Rule up its sleeve; and such nervousness is not allayed by Government's steady refusal to

adopt any special measures for the restoration of order, in spite of the Chief Secretary's admission, made on the introduction of the Irish estimates, that there was an increase of expenditure for criminal prosecutions. That the Government is between two fires is probably the true explanation of its reticence. It does not wish to break with the Nationalists altogether and renounce its pledges, assumed or otherwise; and it dares not appear before the country as a Home Rule Cabinet out and out. At the same time it may be questioned whether the Government does not stand to lose more than it gains by temporization,—supposing it to have any real inclination to Home Rule. For the number of its supporters who might be offended by that policy, openly declared, are probably not in excess of those who are greatly wearied by its partiality for tactics of delay.

But in other respects the Speech is rather over than under-loaded with information and forecast, covering as it does a large field in foreign politics, the Colonies and India; hinting at a Conference of the leading maritime nations in London next autumn, "with a view of coming to an understanding on certain important points of International law" for the guidance of the Court of Appeal in Prize Cases established by the Hague Peace Conference; and winding up with a formidable programme of domestic legislation that will strain all the energies of Parliament. Much of the earlier part of the Speech has been dealt with in these columns as the events to which it refers have occurred. The Anglo-Russian Convention, the *rapprochement* with Germany consequent upon the German Emperor's visit,—these are undoubted feathers in the Government's cap; and if the Convention has been attacked by Lord Curzon, it has been defended by Lord Lansdowne, and the balance of opinion appears to be in its favour. Next in order come the Treaty with France, Germany and Russia "for preserving the integrity of the Kingdom of Norway"; an anxious

reference to the state of affairs in Macedonia, which is only too well justified in the light of subsequent occurrences, with the announcement that further proposals have been made by Great Britain "to the Sultan, and also to the Great Powers, for dealing effectually with the principal causes of disturbance"; and a pious aspiration, (which, is far from being echoed in other quarters), that the negotiations now proceeding for the cession of the Congo State to Belgium will ultimately dispel all cause for anxiety concerning the treatment of the natives. Both Canada and Newfoundland figure hopefully in the Speech; Canada, for her arrangement with Japan touching Japanese immigration; Newfoundland, because the vexed question of her fishery rights and the claims of the United States have been referred to the Hague Court of Arbitration, which may be held to promise at least a possibility of disinterested adjustment. Only in the case of India the outlook is gloomy in the extreme. Famine is now inevitable in two whole provinces, the Panjab and the United Provinces, and in parts of three others: and although prompt measures for relief have been taken and the whole staff of Indian administration is prepared for the worst, the difficulties arising from the inability of the natives to help themselves, and from the inefficiency (to use no harsher word) of native overseers in dispensing relief, must result in terrible mortality. During the debate on the Speech some extreme Radicals attacked the Secretary for India for neglecting to institute measures of self-government which would tend eventually to place India among the autonomous colonies. But the subject was dropped without conclusion and the general feeling of the House was all in favour of the policy which Mr. Morley has maintained. It is not easy to think calmly of men who can desire to complicate matters further at a time when the authorities in India are face to face with dire necessities imposing on them the most devoted and unremitting toil.

There is little to add to the summarized account, conveyed in our earlier telegrams, of the domestic legislation contemplated by the Speech; and apart from considerations of space, detailed criticism is impossible until the proposed measures are actually unfolded before Parliament. Enough there is, and more than enough, to support the claim of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's Cabinet, should it desire the honour, to be called a paternal Government. Unfortunately in attempting to be fatherly to all it may be found to have been far-sighted for none; and in general, the Government appears totally to have failed to appreciate what are the two greatest questions at present before the country and the most pressing in all men's thoughts, namely, Socialism, and Tariff Reform. By a curious coincidence the positions of the Liberal and Unionist parties towards these two questions, as viewed by a large and thoughtful section of each party, are exactly parallel, if not in many respects identical. The one side would eschew Socialism from its reforms, the other side Tariff Reform from its propaganda; and in this manner either side overlaps upon the political creed of the other. Against these expressed wishes, we find the leaders of both parties deliberately coquetting with the idols which are anathema to those who are certainly not the least in worthiness or numbers among their followers. In his speech at Bristol the Prime Minister laid it down that "you cannot afford to play with a little Protection any more than with a little contagious disease." Substituting the words "a little Socialism" for "a little Protection" the injunction might be turned with deadly effect against himself. Even if we set aside altogether those portions of the Speech which can claim ancestry in the enactments of Conservative Governments, there is evidence enough in the words "in connexion with the financial arrangements of the year, proposals will be brought forward for making better provision for old age" that the Prime Minister has only recognized an anxious preoccupation of his countrymen in order to flout it. We are aware that a large number of Conservatives and Conservative organs are in favour of Old Age Pensions: the complaint against Government is not for the end that it seeks but for the means which it appears to contemplate. The Labour Party, whose influence is stamped indelibly upon the whole programme has declared its absolute decision to accept no system of

pensions that entails any form of contribution by the recipients. Instead of rejecting the whole proposal at once as being, upon these lines, both intrinsically impossible and economically unsound, the Government assigns to its pension schemes the front place in the work of the session, with the alternative of producing either what is unacceptable or what can only be secured, in the default of other means of revenue, at the cost of that Free Trade which the Ministry is sworn to defend. There remains to be noticed Mr. Lloyd George's promised Bill to establish an authority for the control of the Port of London. The need of such a Bill has been generally admitted, and we have only singled it out for the sake of the interesting analogy which it offers to the situation of the Liberal Party in that, through a multitude of conflicting interests, the present development of the port is brought to a standstill. The best experts are divided as to how Mr. Lloyd George should deal with the confusion. But at least it may be agreed that his task is no more difficult than that of the Prime Minister, and that if a single and unassailable authority is needed in the Port of London, it is equally called for in the counsels of the nation.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE

"North-China Daily News" Service.

THE TATSU MARU.

Tokio, February 20.

The Japanese Consul at Canton has rejected the Viceroy's proposal that the question of the arrest of the Tatsu Maru should be submitted to arbitration, and has demanded the immediate release of the vessel. —Our Own Correspondent.

MANCHURIA.

THE CUSTOMS QUESTION.

Tokio, February 20.

A Japanese telegram from Harbin states that Russian articles continue to pass through Suifuho free of duty, in spite of the recent announcement that Customs stations had been opened in North Manchuria. —Our Own Correspondent.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION.

New York, February 20.

Mr. W. O'Brien, American Ambassador at Tokio, has forwarded to Washington Count Hayashi's latest Note on the immigration question. It announces that the question has been definitively settled, and that the Japanese prohibition will cover Hawaii, Canada and Mexico. —Our Own Correspondent.

THE AMERICAN ARMADA.

New York, February 20.

The United States fleet is due at Callao to-morrow. —Our Own Correspondent.

PARLIAMENTARY NEWS.

London, February 20.

Eighty Liberal Members of Parliament have signed a memorial to the Prime Minister deprecating the agitation of the so-called "pacifists."

There is a Lobby rumour current to the effect that Mr. Herbert Gladstone will be raised to the Peerage and will succeed Lord Northcote as Governor-General of Australia. —Exclusive Service.

PORTUGAL.

PHILANTHROPY AND CRIME.

London, February 20.

Merchants and shopkeepers in Lisbon have subscribed £4,000 for the families of the regicides. —Exclusive Service.

THE RUBBER TRADE.

AN EFFECT OF THE BOOM.

London via Bombay, February 20.

The Antwerp newspapers report a grave crisis in the rubber trade. Enormous stocks remain unsold. —Reuter.

GREAT BRITAIN AND AMERICA.

THE REMOVAL OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

London via Bombay, February 20.

A telegram from Washington states that a draft treaty has been delivered to Mr. James Bryce, the British Ambassador, to be submitted to the consideration of

Great Britain. It provides for a joint commission to adjudicate upon existing minor claims of the British and the United States Governments and also upon claims of their respective citizens.—*Reuter.*

THE BALKAN PROBLEM.

London via Bombay, February 20.

A semi-official Russian statement, though emphasizing the inopportunities of the Austrian railway project as being likely to increase Turkey's obstinacy against reforms, views with satisfaction the declaration of Austria-Hungary that she has no objection to other railway enterprises. It concludes by stating that Russia does not desire personal advantages and sincerely wishes to live at peace with Turkey.—*Reuter.*

SPECIAL SERVICE.

By arrangement
with "Der Ostasiatische Lloyd."

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, February 19.

British and Russian politicians, who are striving for a full understanding between both Powers, state in spite of official denials that a further rapprochement of Russia and Great Britain is imminent with regard to the East.

A Russian man-of-war is visiting Naples; Admiral Eberhard and the officers have been received by King Victor Emanuel in Rome.

The Royal Family of Greece will welcome the German Emperor on his arrival in Corfu.

The Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd., announces that the total output of the Company's three mines for the week ending February 8, 1908, amounted to Tons, nil, owing to Chinese New Year Holidays, and the sales during that period to 2,382.60 tons.

It is stated that a European, in full orders of the Buddhist priesthood, will leave Rangoon for London next March. It is not generally known that there are several Europeans who have entered the Buddhist priesthood from time to time. The Bhikkhu-Ananda Maitraya, who is to visit England, is the founder and director of the International Buddhist Society, the headquarters of which are in Rangoon, and which has its representatives, not only in all Eastern countries, as Japan, China, Siam, and Ceylon, but throughout Europe and in America. The Bhikkhu Ananda Maitraya also issues a quarterly magazine, "Buddhism."

H. M. S. Bramble arrived here yesterday.

The German cruiser Arcona left Shanghai yesterday.

The body of Lieut. J. W. Crawford, former Secretary to Admiral Dewey, was found floating in the Potomac River on January 15. Lieut. Crawford disappeared on November 22 and a letter was subsequently found stating that he intended to commit suicide because of financial troubles. He was a prominent member of the Y. M. C. A. and was connected with several philanthropical societies.

At the Japanese Consular Court yesterday morning, before Mr. T. Takishima, Police Magistrate, F. Kyushikiko was brought up on remand, charged with having been concerned with another man not in custody in assaulting one Anna Grimsberg at No. 59 Scott Road at 11.15 p.m. on the 18th instant.—His Worship dismissed the charge on the ground that there was not sufficient evidence upon which to convict the accused.

CASUALTIES on the railways of the United States during 1907 amounted to 5,000 people killed and 76,286 injured. This terrible record has naturally evoked an outcry for more careful management. One great trouble, it is stated, is the lack of obedience to orders and absence of discipline among railway employees. There is no out-on-the-road supervision of American railways; hence managers are compelled to depend on the reports of employees for news of violation of rules.

GASTON MASPERO describes in the *Journal des Débats* the unwrapping and examination of a mummy which has been for a number of years in the museum at Cairo, and is generally regarded as that of the Pharaoh Merneptah, who is in turn generally supposed to be the Pharaoh of the Exodus. Like most royal Egyptian remains, he had not escaped the outrage of ancient robbers, who in their haste had mutilated parts of the head and body. Still the condition of the body was such as to enable the medical experts to determine that the Pharaoh Merneptah had not died from the entry of water into the lungs. M. Maspero asserts, however, for comfort, that the connexion of Merneptah with the Exodus is by no means settled.

On January 11 the New York banks, for the first time since the panic began with the Knickerbocker failure on October 22, showed a surplus over the 25 per cent ratio of cash reserve to deposits required by law. Full cash payments to depositors had previously been resumed and the currency premium had disappeared. The deficit was first reported in the New York bank statement issued on October 26. By November 23 it had grown to the portentous figure of \$54,103,000, by far the largest shortage in the history of American banking. At the climax of the panic of 1893, the greatest deficit was \$16,645,000; and while the banks published no statements during the worst days of 1873, it is impossible that either of the above-named figures should then have been matched. Since the opening of December, cash holdings of the New York banks have

been gradually increasing, and the deficit simultaneously diminishing: until on January 11 a remarkably large increase of \$18,300,000 in cash wiped out the deficit, and replaced it with a surplus of \$6,000,000.

AN EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

The Chinese Young Men's Christian Association in response to a demand on the part of the foreign business public of Shanghai has opened an Employment Department. The aim will be to recommend to reliable foreign firms Chinese men for office work, teaching, translation work, etc. Those desiring assistance on these lines should apply to the Employment Secretary, Chinese Y. M. C. A. 120 Szechuen Road.

THE QUEEN'S YACHTSMAN.

Captain James Samuel Watts, Royal Navy, who died suddenly on January 23, at Digby House, Melton Mowbray, was for several years the Master of the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert during the reign of Queen Victoria. As a master's assistant in the *Dee*, paddler, four guns, during the time that vessel was employed in the suppression of the slave trade on the East Coast of Africa in 1849 he was present in her boats, when, with the boats of the *Castor*, 36, an Arab stockade and armed slave dhow in the Angoxa river was attacked and destroyed after an engagement of several hours' duration. He was also, while serving in the same ship, employed in the operations of landing troops, horses, and war material for the Kaffir war of 1851-52, and received the medal for these services. As master's assistant, and afterwards as second master, to which rank he was raised in March, 1854, he was employed in the *Antelope* on the West Coast of Africa, and during 1853-56 was present at several engagements with slavers. In December, 1857, he was promoted to the rank of master, and while serving in that capacity in the *Ringdove*, screw steamship, four guns, during the China War was present at the capture of the Taku forts on the Peiho in August, 1860, receiving the China medal with clasp for Taku. In the following year he received the thanks of the Admiralty and a present of nautical instruments for hydrographical work performed in Japanese waters. His next appointment was as master of the *Bombay*, screw line of battleship, and he was serving in her when she was destroyed by fire off Montevideo on December 14, 1864, and was mentioned in dispatches for his gallantry on this occasion. It was in this ship that thirty-four out of the ninety-seven officers and men who lost their lives were Marines, every sentry dying at his post. In June, 1870, he was promoted to the rank of Staff commander, and from 1877 to 1882 served in this capacity in the *Victoria* and *Albert*, until he received his commission as Staff captain. He retired from active service in 1888, but still continued to hold the post of Nautical Assessor to the Lords of the Judicial

Committee of the Privy Council.—
"The Times."

At the Mixed Court on Tuesday morning before Mr. S. Y. Wong (Assistant Magistrate), and Dr. Barchet (American Assessor), the following were the most important of a long list of cases; 1. Tiendong Road fire, Tsen Z-chung charged with gross carelessness; sentenced to two months' imprisonment. 2. A Chinese woman, Wong Waing-sze, communicating with her daughter in the female ward, cautioned and sent to the Taotai's yamen. 3. Dong Zen-long charged with stealing clothing worth \$12, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. 4. A burglar charged with stealing goods to the value of \$150 from 43 Tientsin Road, sentenced to five months' imprisonment. 5. Li Santz, a coolie, charged with stealing 2½ sheets of fibre from 19 Yuhang Road, to the value of \$50. The case was remanded. 6. Ben Yai-si, a shopkeeper charged with receiving a bicycle: fined \$40, or in default six weeks' imprisonment.

A RAID was made in Yangtszepoo Police District on Tuesday night at 11 p.m. upon a gambling den as a result of which twenty-six natives were charged at the Mixed Court on Wednesday morning before Mr. Wong (assistant magistrate) and Mr. Barr (Assistant British Assessor) with public gambling. According to the evidence of Inspector Aiers and Detective-Sergeant Brewster, the police made an organized raid on the house, but were outnumbered and after a desperate struggle were able to arrest only twenty-six of the forty odd gamblers who were found on the premises. The principal defendant was fined \$10, or two weeks' imprisonment, and the other defendants were fined \$5 each, or in the alternative sentenced to one week's imprisonment. The tenant of the house, charged with permitting gambling on his premises, was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment.

At the Mixed Court on Wednesday morning, before Mr. S. Y. Wong (Assistant Magistrate) and Mr. S. Barton (British Assessor), an assistant in a pawnbroker's shop in the native city was charged with the theft of \$500 in notes, \$500 in silver and jewellery valued at \$400, from the shop in which he was employed, on the 15th instant. The proprietor of No. 63 Kwangse Road—a house of ill-fame—was charged with receiving \$1,050 well knowing the same to have been stolen. Detective-Sergeant Cruickshank stated that on the 15th instant the first defendant absconded from his employer's shop with the money and jewellery mentioned in the charge and, at a house No. 63 Kwangse Road, purchased a native girl for \$1,000 and paid \$50 for the marriage agreement to be drawn up. Later in the evening he sold the stolen jewellery at a goldsmith's shop in Nanking Road for \$350. The first defendant was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment and the Court ordered the marriage to be cancelled. The female defendant who had sold the

girl was fined \$10 and cautioned and it was ordered that the jewellery sold to the Nanking Road goldsmith should be handed over to the Municipal Police. —For the theft of a quantity of clothing, valued at \$150, from the No. 480 Fokien Road, and for returning to the Settlement after expulsion, a prisoner was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and to be again expelled. —For the larceny of clothing of the value of \$10 from a boat lying at the Japanese Wharf on the 18th instant a coolie was sentenced to seven days' cangue.

The American gunboat Quiros arrived at Shanghai on the 14th instant.

The Russian gunboat Mandjour left Shanghai on the 13th instant.

H. M. S. S. Teal and Nighingale left Shanghai on the 13th instant.

The Chinese revenue cruiser Liuhsin left Shanghai on the 15th instant.

It is reported that the British steamship St. Cuthbert, 5,000 tons, plying between Antwerp and New York was burnt off the coast of Massachusetts on the 15th instant. Fifteen lives were lost. The remainder of those on board were picked up the steamer Cymric. The catastrophe was caused by the ignition of explosives carried by the St. Cuthbert in her cargo.

THE Limerick Competition has come to Shanghai together with other good or wicked things in this week's "Eastern Sketch. One of the cartoons reminds us of the following remark by one South African millionaire (who, to his credit be it said, is not ashamed of referring to his early days as a pedlar) to another, who would fain follow in Cecil J. Rhodes' footsteps:—"I say, X.Y., they tell me Rhodes' mantle has fallen on you. Believe me, old boy; I know something about old clothes; they never fit, so you have nothing to do with it."

A COPY of "Everybody's Magazine" for February reaches us from Messrs. Denniston and Sullivan. It is full of good reading matter, with a *pièce de résistance* in Mr. T. W. Lawson's own statement in distinctly breezy language of the reasons that have led him to give up the fight for company reform and to leave the matter in the hands of the public. There are some delightful pencil sketches of Chicago, while other illustrations are excellent.

WE have received Tientsin papers dated to February 10.—The Viceroy of Hukuan has engaged a Japanese engineer to construct the Szechuan-Hankow railway. He has left Wuchow to survey the route from Hankow to Shasi and Ichang.—The labourers, on the Amur railway have been on strike for an increase of wages. The men seized a number of dynamite cartridges with a view to blowing up the railway factories and other buildings, but the authorities kept order by the use of troops. A number of the ringleaders have been arrested.—The natives of Yunnan have memorialized the Government for permission to raise money from the land taxes to redeem the French railway in that province.—Dr. Schrameier, who was at one time attached to the German

Consulate General at Shanghai and is now Privy Councillor in the Admiralty Court at Tsingtao, has received from the German Emperor the Crown Order of the third class, in recognition of his past valuable services as a jurist.—Councillor Wegener, who up to the present was a member of the German Admiralty Court at Tsingtao, has now been appointed Judge in the Supreme Court of Kiaochow, replacing Judge Rosenberger who is appointed a Judge in the Naval Court.

WE have received Japan papers dated to February.—The Japanese steamer Satsuma Maru has been wrecked off Yoktor Bay, Alaska.—A disastrous fire has occurred at Chiba in which 380 houses were destroyed and 100 people were injured; the damage is estimated at ¥118,000.—Messrs. Shimada, Otake and some other members of the Yūkōkai yesterday submitted a Bill to the House of Representatives to abolish the transit and textile fabric taxes from April 1, 1909.—It is reported that M. Malevsky Malevitch, a Privy Councillor and departmental chief of the Foreign Office, will be appointed Minister to Japan in succession to M. Bakhmetieff.—M. Shipoff, the new Russian Minister of Commerce, is reported to have publicly expressed a view to the effect that the development of Russian trade in the newly-opened foreign ports was highly necessary, and to have declared himself opposed to the free-port system of Vladivostok.

ACCORDING to Japanese papers, it has been definitely decided that the status of the Russian Legation at Tokio shall be promoted to the rank of an Embassy. The Embassy will, therefore, consist of one first-class secretary, two second-class secretaries, one interpreter, three military and naval attachés, and some special members of the staff, in view of the special relations between Japan and Russia. It will have a commercial agent, too. The annual amount to be expended on the Embassy will be Rs. 108,300.

REGARDING "The Japan Scotch Whisky Case," which has been attracting public attention for some time, a decision was given at the Patent Office on February 6, 1908, declaring the trade mark of the Osaka merchant void.

THE "Japan Times" states that the six new warships to be constructed or finished this year include two battleships, one at Yokosuka and the other at Kure, a large type destroyer and two ordinary destroyers (Ayanami and Isomani) at Maidzuru and a dispatch boat (Mogami) at the Mitsn Bishi Shipbuilding Yard and Engine Works, Nagasaki. Of these the Mogami, Ayanami and Isomani are expected to be completed and launched in course of this year. The construction of the two battleships and the large destroyer will probably be delayed more or less on account of the curtailment of the Budget.

HONGKONG papers report with many sympathetic notices an accident, attended by fatal results, that befel Mr. William Danby, architect and civil

engineer, on February 11. It appears that Mr. Danby was leaving the Hongkong Club at about 7 p.m. when he missed his footing at a sharp bend in the stairway and falling heavily struck his head against one of the granite steps. Medical aid was summoned immediately, but no hope existed and he died at 2.10 p.m. next day, without regaining consciousness. Two weeks ago one of Mr. Danby's sons died at Singapore.

A CHINESE policeman ran amok at Canton on the 11th instant and the result is that one woman is dead and six other persons are badly wounded. The man became suddenly insane, rushed into his own house and slashed his wife with a chopper, killing her instantly, then he turned upon another woman, slashed off her ear and made an ugly wound on the head. At that time the man in charge of the police station came upon the scene and the policeman turned upon him, fired at him with a revolver and chased him out into the street: then he ran into the Tartar General's yamen, firing as he went. Next the madman turned and fired at the crowd in the street. One man was very seriously wounded, the main artery of the leg being severed. The madman was finally secured and is now safely confined.—"The China Mail."

DURING the voyage of the Cunard liner Pannonia across the Atlantic at the end of December the ship was stopped while a storm was raging and the waves quietened with oil, and an operation on a stoker suffering from appendicitis was carried out by the ship's surgeon. The operation was successful, but when it was over the surgeon practically collapsed; so great had been the strain on his nerves. The stoker was convalescent when the ship arrived at New York.

THOMAS Mulligan, fireman on the U. S. S. Helena, was charged before the Hon. Charles Denby, at the American Consular Court on Saturday morning with being drunk and disorderly in East Scott Road the previous night; also with damaging a cell door at the Harbin Road Police Station, to the extent of \$5. The offences were admitted. Sub-Inspector Morrison explained that the man was drunk and disorderly and when put inside a cell he kicked and damaged the door. His Honour imposed a fine of \$10 and \$5 damage.

At the Japanese Consular Court on Wednesday morning, before Mr. T. Takishima, Police Magistrate, N. Meibaru was sentenced to three days' imprisonment for being drunk and disorderly in Broadway at 9.50 p.m. on the 18th instant and assaulting a Chinese complainant at the same time and place.—S. Taro and H. Kiyoshi were charged with being drunk and disorderly in Scott Road at 10 p.m. on the 18th instant and assaulting Indian P. C. No. 193 at the same time and place. S. Taro was sentenced to three days' imprisonment and the charge against H. Kiyoshi was dismissed.—F. Kyushikiko was charged with having been concerned with another man not in custody in

assaulting one Anna Grimsberg at No. 59 Scott Road at 11.15 p.m. on the 18th instant. After hearing the evidence of several witnesses for the prosecution, his Worship remanded the prisoner in custody until 10 a. m. to-day.

A FEW weeks ago, at the Mixed Court, a native was sentenced to four years' imprisonment on a charge of trafficking in females and it was ordered that a sum of \$995.40 found in the man's possession and on his premises should be retained by the Police until the Court decided as to how it should be divided between certain charitable institutions. Yesterday morning Inspector Chilver asked the Court for directions and it was ordered that the money should be equally divided between the Sinza Refuge, the Door of Hope and the Slave Girls' Refuge.

LIGHT HORSE POINT-TO-POINT.

The annual Light Horse Point-to-Point race was held on Sunday afternoon and turned out to be a very successful ride. The squadron was divided into three classes—light, middle and heavy weights—each class being handicapped by itself. The points were: start at corner of Brennan and Jessfield Roads. From there go to the Wedge Roof Joss-house. From there over the platform at Mouklee Loop to and over the false Jessfield line.

The result was as follows:—

Light Weights: Trumpeter Dalgarno on Temperature.

Middle Weights: Trooper H. Quelch on Hero.

Heavy Weights. Sergeant-Major Crighton on Jagers.

A curious incident was that the middle-weight—Tpr. H. Quelch—beat the light-weight by about two minutes, although the light-weights started some minutes before the middle-weights, thus showing that Trooper Quelch had studied the country well.

The riders were started by Messrs. R. Macgregor and F. J. Burrett: the judges at the finish were Lieut.-Col. Watson and Mr. C. O. Liddell.

The officials and members of the squadron again enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. R. Macgregor at his residence, after the event.

THE LAOU KUNG MOW COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

The fourteenth ordinary meeting of the Laou Kung Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd. was held at Messrs. Ilbert and Co.'s offices on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. F. Anderson presiding. In moving the adoption of the report and accounts for the past year, the chairman said that the local yarn trade had been disappointing throughout the year; a large portion of the production was formerly sold locally for the manufacture of native goods for shipment to Manchuria, but ever since the end of the Russo-Japanese war trade with that market had been under a cloud. They were waiting patiently in the hope that the impediments would be removed and that trade would parti-

ally at least return to its former channels. Mr. Anderson also made some interesting remarks on China's industrial interest, but owing to pressure on our space we are compelled to hold over a verbatim report of his speech.—The report and accounts were adopted, Messrs. Michelau and Cheng Liang-yue were re-appointed directors, Mr. Wingrove was re-elected auditor and it was resolved to hold the next General Meeting during either February or March, 1909.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT HONGKONG.

Yesterday morning, writes our Hongkong correspondent on February 7, the water police found a body floating in the harbour, which turned out to be the body of Captain James Mackenzie. He has only recently come to Hongkong from Shanghai to take over command of the Shantung, one of the steamers of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. When the body was found there were no marks to indicate foul play, and up to the present a profound mystery shrouds the path along which the unfortunate captain walked to end his life in this tragic way. He was in the Company's office only a short time before the finding of the body. It was taken to the mortuary to await an inquiry, from which it is hoped that some light will be thrown upon the unhappy affair. Captain Mackenzie had come to take over the ship in the place of Captain John Robinson, who has gone home on leave.

THE NEW YEAR IN HONGKONG.

Notwithstanding the repeated assertions among the Chinese, writes our Hongkong correspondent, as well as from the lips of foreigners, that the past Chinese year has been an unfortunate one in respect to business, the year closed without any special failures among the Chinese. It is reported that when the time came to settle up the accounts of the year, as is usually done by the Chinese at its close, money was not as plentiful as could be wished. Arrangements, however, were contrived and nothing serious occurred. This is certainly satisfactory, as it offers hope that with the coming year, as there have been no failures, there will be an improvement in the business world, and as the interests of European firms are closely bound up in the prosperity of the native firms, all parties are looking forward to a better state of things.

CHENGCHOU.

(HONAN.)

From Our Own Correspondent.

January 27.

RAILWAY ZEAL.

The workings of new forces are evident in the many public meetings which are being held throughout the province in the interest of the proposed new railroads to be built for the people and by the people. When in Kaifeng, several weeks ago, we visited the large

government school there, and were surprised to learn that a large number of the students were absent in connexion with the new railroad movement. Recently at Chengchou several mass meetings have been called, at which the railroad question was discussed. At these meetings the leading speakers have been the principal of the Government school here, also one or two of the leading citizens closely connected with the schools and students sent out by the higher school in Kaifeng. There are four proposed lines, as follows: the Pienlo (Kaifeng-Honanfu) line is to be extended west to the border of Shensi, at Tungkwanting, and east to two points: One line from Kaifeng to Chinanfu, Shantung, and another from Kaifeng to Haichou on the coast; one line to run from Hsinyangchou, a point on the Pehau, to a point near Nanking. If these proposed lines are carried into effect in the near future it will mean much for the development of this great interior province. So long as it is on paper, and no money is called for, it is easy to get an unlimited number of shares taken at \$5 a share, but it remains to be seen whether the money will materialize when called for.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

A kind of Superintendent of schools has been appointed for this district and he has had a number of men at work under him securing the necessary statistics with a view to opening up free schools in the villages in the district. A list of all the villages of ten families or more has been made giving the number of families, temples or other buildings available for school purposes, the names of the leading men, and the number of children of school age. A map of the district has also been made and forwarded with the other information gathered to the Provincial Director of Government Schools. At least some effort is being made toward systematization, and this is to be commended, though it may be many years before the proposed plans for free schools on the Western model can be put into effect.

POST-OFFICE ROBBERY.

Much excitement has been caused by a robbery in the postal department which happened about Christmas. It seems that a merchant in the capital has a branch house in Hsuehou. The manager of the Hsuehou house put about Tls. 700 in bank-notes in a letter, and being too late to get the letter in at the post-office, he carried it to the train and gave it to the train clerk remarking that it was an important letter. Not hearing anything about it for several days the man undertook to trace it. He came to Chengchou and upon inquiry found that the notes had been cashed by one of the city banks here. Instead of notifying the official or the head of the postal department he went to Kaifeng and made complaint in one of the sub-post offices. This complaint was made in the presence of the train clerk, who reported the conversation in Chengchou, and the young fellow who had stolen the money took warning and fled. He was one of the boys who was

accustomed to meet the trains and receive the mails. He fled with his wife, and another man who was formerly in the employ of the post-office.

Mr. Perry-Ayscough, the Superintendent of the Imperial Post for Honan province, was in Chengchou spending the Christmas holidays at the time and only learned of the robbery on his return to Kaifeng. He set to work energetically to find the man. He was traced as far as Pochou, Anhui, where it was learned that he had gone south. Mr. Perry-Ayscough had eighty photographs of the man struck and sent out, and also telegraphed to Chinkiang, Nanking and other places to keep a sharp look-out. A telegram has just been received stating that the three parties have been arrested in Nanking, and will be sent back under guard.

LONDON.

From Our Own Correspondent.

January 17, 1908.

PREPARING FOR PARLIAMENT.

Lord Lansdowne yesterday issued his "whip" to the vast majority of the Peers, reminding them that Parliament is to assemble on the 29th instant, and that "it is probable that questions of importance will be raised in the House of Lords early in the session." It is indeed more than probable. We may reckon on a particularly lively session. On Wednesday Mr. Asquith let in a little more light on to the Government programme, but not very much. His Education Bill and the Licensing Bill are evidently to be the principal measures; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer undertakes to "make a beginning" with a scheme of "Old Age Pensions." Just when he was giving this undertaking, however, a lady of the suffragette order interfered with the remark that he never did anything else but beginnings. She was promptly ejected; but her ejaculation may nevertheless prove prophetic. There are many who doubt whether the scheme will ever grow into anything big enough to meet the socialist demand. One pleasant feature of the opening of Parliament, which will again be performed by the King in person, is that the two leaders are returning to their places happily restored to health. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is, we are assured, quite set up by his sojourn in the Riviera, and Mr. Balfour is able to address a big meeting at Glasgow to-day.

THE DUBLIN CROWN JEWELS.

We are never without a big sensation now. With the Druce case scarcely over and the proceedings against the man who killed Woolf Joel, we have now the matter of the disappearance of the Regalia of the Order of St. Patrick once more before the public in a deeply interesting form. It may be remembered that after the loss of these Crown Jewels had been publicly notified a few weeks ago, the whole matter appeared to be suddenly dropped, and it was announ-

ced by papers, which professed to be particularly well informed, that the police knew perfectly well what had become of the jewels and were confident that they would, within a few days, be quietly restored. In conversation it was freely stated that the regalia had been pawned by a high official of the Dublin College of Arms, and that he would be given an opportunity of redeeming and replacing them without a public scandal. Later developments show that this story was far from accurate. The jewels have been neither restored voluntarily nor recovered by the police; they are still missing, and a Commission appointed by the Government is inquiring into the circumstances of their loss, and especially as to the discharge of his duties by Sir Arthur Vicars, Ulster King-of-Arms, who was officially responsible for their safe keeping. The duty of the Commission is, of course, not to try and discover or convict the thief; that is a matter for the police, and for a criminal court if they succeed in making an arrest. But Sir Arthur Vicars, smarting no doubt under the slanderous stories which have been circulated, feels himself deeply aggrieved by the circumstances of the Commission. He contends that the inquiry should be one conducted in public by Commissioners empowered to administer oaths and to deal with the whole question on a much wider basis than that of the terms of the Commission. Such an inquiry, he admits, could only be instituted by an Act of Parliament, and that seems rather a big order in the circumstances. Sir Arthur is accused of nothing more than remissness of duty in not taking better care of the jewels entrusted to him; and the Commission as appointed seems quite adequate to deal with such a charge.

THE CONQUEST OF THE AIR.

An item of news from Paris which has a deep interest for us in England is the winning of the Deutsch-Ardeacon Prize of 50,000 francs and the "Daily Mail" prize of £100 by Mr. Henry Farman, an Englishman and a son of the Paris correspondent of the London "Tribune".

His feat of making a circuit of a kilometre with a sharp turn, starting and finishing between two points placed about sixty feet apart, is by far the greatest that has yet been achieved in public by an aeroplane, whatever may have been done in private by the Brothers Wilbur and Orville Wright in America. Having pocketed \$2,100 as a result of his feat, Mr. Farman is coming to London to have a try for the "Daily Graphic" prize of £1,000, which he ought to win easily enough—unless some competitor is beforehand. The course for the "Daily Graphic" prize is one mile on the Brooklands Motor Racing course, but it is one mile on a straight course, which ought to be easier than a thousand yards with a sharp turn in it, returning to the starting point. The only point of probable difficulty lies in the power of the motor, and for the Brooklands event Mr. Far-

man is to have a new motor. The problem is to construct a motor which is at once very powerful and comparatively very light. This problem has been practically solved, but it will probably be a very long time yet before an aeroplane is constructed capable of winning the "Daily Mail" £10,000 prize by going from London to Birmingham without touching the ground. Nor are we much nearer a solution of the still greater problem of practical aerial navigation.

The aeroplane is at present only a dangerous toy, requiring extraordinary skill and nerve on the part of the aeronaut, and no one can yet say whether we shall ever see realized the oft-pictured ideal of aerial omnibuses carrying business men from the suburb to the city and home again at night.

THE SUFFRAGETTES AGAIN.

There was an extraordinary scene in Downing-street to-day during a Cabinet meeting, over which the Marquess of Ripon presided in the absence of the Prime Minister in the Riviera. It was a raid of "suffragettes," the particular object of whose attentions was Mr. Asquith, who is of course the most determined opponent of Women's Suffrage among the members of the Government. Some of them actually forced their way into the Prime Minister's residence when the door was opened to admit the Cabinet Ministers, and when they were ejected the sight-seers had the edifying spectacle of a woman rolling down the Premier's steps. Two women actually fastened themselves to the railings with heavy chains and padlocks, to prevent the police from removing them, and one woman had her skirt torn completely away in the struggle which ensued. The whole scene was perhaps the most discreditable in the entire "suffragette campaign"; especially in view of the fact that Mrs. Herbert Gladstone was lying seriously ill after an operation in the adjoining house, the official residence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the use of which has been ceded by Mr. Asquith to the Home Secretary.

THE SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT CO., LD.

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders in the Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd., was held at the Company's Offices, No. 2 Jinkee Road, on Wednesday afternoon, the 19th February, 1908. There were present Messrs. E. Jenner Hogg (Chairman), E. C. Pearce, C. W. Wrightson, J. M. Young and H. R. Kinnear, (directors), Mr. P. Peebles (manager), Messrs. A. Dallas, A. McLeod, H. J. H. Tripp, J. A. Ballard, J. H. Teesdale, R. M. Saker, Crawford, D. Kerr, H. King Hillier, H. Macray, J. Johnstone, Captain J. Whittle, D. M. Gubbay, Valentine, Sze Ting-sia and Zung Lieb-kung.

Mr. Peebles was appointed secretary to the meeting.

The Chairman said:—I presume that we may take the Reports and Accounts, which have been in your hands for some time, as read. I think that they must have afforded you satisfaction, showing as they do that we are able to offer you the same rate of dividend as last year as well as a bonus of Tls. 2 (which is half a tael more than in 1906) This return is of course on the increased capital now standing at Tls. 3,900,000. The additional capital has enabled us to extend our business profitably in the present, and has provided for extensions which I hope will prove remunerative in the future. We propose to carry forward the substantial sum of Tls. 109,547.50 to the next account, which leaves us in a strong position for the present year. Our rental account has increased by the very satisfactory sum of Tls. 54,000 while repairs etc., account has not been subjected to the "extraordinary" charges of last year and is less than in 1906 by about Tls. 20,000, but our properties are all well kept up; gradual improvement of the various estates being secured by our doing all structural repairs in a substantial manner, which though more expensive in the beginning is the best economy in the long run. Interest account is the difference between what we pay on debentures and overdraft and the receipts from our mortgages and shows a satisfactory balance, as our mortgages are very liberally covered. Of the other side of working account there is little need of explanation. There is a small increase in charges, salaries and rental, resulting from our growing business. The trustees' remuneration is slightly added to in respect of a further debenture deed drawn up to cover the last issue of debentures. In profit and loss account you will find that during the year we have sold certain properties on which we have considered it desirable to realize, giving profits amounting in all to Tls. 136,583.43. Reserve fund stands in the accounts at Tls. 869,493.51 and as we propose to add now the amount of premiums derived from the recent issue of capital—Tls. 653,552.21—it will then reach the sum of Tls. 1,523,045.72 or nearly forty per cent of our present capital. The reserve fund special account remains as before at Tls. 170,000 and is as you know available at any time when required for equalization of dividends. In the balance sheet you will find the cost of our several properties with the additions thereto during the year. Our mortgages, amounting to Tls. 2,704,297.14 are, as I have already said, very fully covered. On the other side of the account is shown our Capital increased by the last issue to Tls. 3,900,000 and we have added Tls. 112,000 to our issue of six per cent debentures. We shall probably issue a further instalment shortly. We have expended during the year about:—Tls. 418,000 on undeveloped land, 413,400 on new buildings, 17,800 on land and buildings together and have every reason to be

satisfied with these investments. As to the future I can pretty nearly repeat my remarks of a year ago and what I said then has been quite borne out. We have several properties that will commence or increase their earnings this year and there is every reason to believe that a year hence we shall be able to lay before you a no less satisfactory report than that which we have presented to you to-day.

There were no questions, and the following resolutions were put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—

That the report and accounts as presented be accepted and passed.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. J. M. Young.

That the directors be authorized to pay a final dividend for the year 1907 of six per cent and a bonus of four per cent on the paid up capital to all shareholders on the register this day.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. C. W. Wrightson.

That Mr. H. R. Kinnear be re-elected a director of the Company.—Proposed by Mr. Dallas, seconded by Mr. Saker.

That Mr. G. R. Wingrove be re-elected auditor for the ensuing year.—Proposed by Mr. A. McLeod, seconded by Mr. Crawford Kerr.

That a bonus of ten per cent on their salaries be paid to the staff.—Proposed by Mr. Tripp, seconded by Mr. Crawford Kerr.

The Chairman announced that dividend warrants would be issued to-day.

THE SOY CHEE COTTON SPINNING CO., LD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The General Manager submits a statement of accounts for the twelve months ending December 31, 1907.

The Directors exceedingly regret the unfortunate result of the year's working, but it must be borne in mind that prices of yarn have fallen approximately Tls. 10 to Tls. 12 per bale since the beginning of 1907, as a consequence of which several of our customers had to suspend payment, and the Company were obliged to resell the yarn at a corresponding loss, which aggregates Tls. 27,756.52. As the outlook was very gloomy all through the summer, the mill was put on reduced production, thereby naturally somewhat increasing the cost of production per bale.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account at the close of the year after allowing for interest, Directors' and Auditor's fees and General Manager's commission, amounts to Tls. 26,123.27, which the Directors propose to deal with as follows:—

To write off 2½ per cent for depreciation of machinery	Tls. 17,153.04
„ write off 10 per cent for depreciation of furniture	„ 286.50
„ write off 2½ per cent for depreciation of buildings	„ 6,791.99
absorbing altogether.	Tls. 24,231.58

leaving a balance of Tls. 1,897.74 to be carried forward to new account.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

In accordance with Rule 12 of the Articles of Association, two members of the Board, Messrs. Woo Sae-chin and Ho Hsien-chuen, retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. E. Gerecke, who has audited the accounts, offers himself for re-election.

R. LEMKE,

General Manager.

Shanghai, February 14, 1908.

BALANCE SHEET.

December 31, 1907.

(Cents omitted).

Liabilities.	Tls.
2,000 shares fully paid-up...	1,000,000
Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, overdraft.....	9,427
Accounts payable	27,743
Legal Reserve Fund	28,257
Unclaimed dividends	100
Profit and Loss Account, balance per December 31, 1907	26,129

Tls. 1,091,658

Assets.

Tls.	Tls.
Property Account.....	105,759
Additions in 1907.....	7,482

113,242

Building Account.....	261,232
Less depreciation until end of 1906	26,123

235,109

Additions until end of 1907 ...	10,446
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245,556

Furniture Account	2,601
Less depreciation until end of 1906	1,247
Tls.	1,353

Additions until end of 1907 ...	263
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1,617

Machinery Account	681,426
Less depreciation until end of 1906	194,419

487,007

Less sales of Ginning Machinery and sundry superfluous Machinery	10,008
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476,998

Additions until end of 1907 ...	4,695
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481,693

Stock of cotton	47,279
" " yarn	111,984
" " waste	499
Cotton and yarn in process.	18,678
Unexpired fire premia	2,858

Stock of mill stores account.	17,964
Stock of coal	378
Sundry debtors	49,644
Cash with compradore	262

Tls. 1,091,658

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AT December 31, 1907.

Dr.

Dr.	Tls.
To Interest	9,366
" Directors' fees	2,500
" Auditor's fees	250
" General Manager's commission	10,089
" Balance of Working Account	4,189
" Balance	26,129

Tls. 52,503

Dr.

Dr.	Tls.
By Balance carried forward from 1906	50,663
" Transfer fees	13
" Rent account	1,827

Tls. 52,503

Shanghai, December 31, 1907.

R. LEMKE,

General Manager.

I have examined the books and vouchers kept by the General Manager and find the above statement and accounts in accordance therewith.

E. GERECKE,
Auditor.

NOTES ON NATIVE AFFAIRS.

February 18.

THE UNREST IN CHENGHSIEN.

H. E. Fêng Ju-kuei, Governor of Chêkiang, received a telegraphic dispatch on Sunday last from the Prefect of Shaoshing to the effect that Chêng-hsien is in a state of insurrection, and that, unless a large force of troops is sent there, the district will soon fall into the hands of desperadoes. On receipt of this intelligence, the Governor instructed Li, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Chêkiang, to send without delay a strong force of well-trained troops to the scene of disturbance.

HUNGHUTZE DEFEATED.

A telegram from Mukden reports that a severe fight has taken place between the Government troops, under Colonel Chang, and a large number of Hunghutze bandits at Talienhu, near the frontier of the two provinces of Kirin and Heilungkiang. More than fifty bandits are reported to have been killed and captured in the scuffle.

THE SUPPRESSION OF ROBBERS.

H.E. Jui Chêng left here on Sunday last for Soochow to confer with the Governor as to the best means of suppressing the robbers in this province. We understand that after he has had an interview with the Governor, H.E. Jui will proceed to Hangchow to consult with H.E. Fêng Ju-kuei on the same question.

THE SITUATION IN KASHING.

In compliance with an Imperial Rescript ordering him to make a report upon the situation in Kashing, Governor Fêng Ju-kuei has memorialized the Throne stating that all the smugglers in that prefecture have been dispersed (*sic*), and that the people are free from alarm or disturbance.

REGULATIONS FOR MINING COLLEGES.

It is reported from Peking that the Presidents of the Ministries of Agriculture, Works and Commerce and of Education have jointly submitted to the Throne regulations for the establishment of mining colleges in the various provincial capitals.

ARMS FOR TROOPS.

The "Universal Gazette" publishes a telegram from Canton to the effect that Viceroy Chang Jên-chün has contracted with a foreign firm in that port for the purchase of a large quantity of arms and machine guns for the use of the troops of the Liangkung provinces.

February 21.

THE EMPRESS AND ANTI-MONARCHISTS.

When General Chiang Kuei-ti (Commander-in-Chief of the Yangtze) was received in farewell audience on Tuesday last, the Empress Dowager instructed him to deal severely with anti-monarchists and to put down promptly any disturbance or insurrection which might arise within his jurisdiction.

THE TATSU MARU.

Telegrams from Peking report that, with regard to the Japanese steamer Tatsu Maru which was recently arrested on the charge of gun-running at Kin-chou near Macao, the Japanese Minister wrote to the Waiwupu the other day demanding the release of the vessel and the payment of compensation. He also claims the punishment of the officials concerned in the arrest, as her cargo of arms and ammunition, he adds, was duly authorized by the Japanese Government, while permission to import the munitions was given by the Portuguese Government.

FINANCIAL STRINGENCY.

The Central Government has received a memorial from Viceroy Hsu Shih-chang, of the Three Eastern Provinces of Manchuria, complaining of the lack of funds to carry out the reforms ordered by Imperial command. His Excellency, therefore, recommends that permission to increase the salt likin of his Viceroyalty should be granted. It is reported that the Central Government will probably advise the Throne to consent to the Viceroy's request, as the reorganization of the international administration of these provinces is very important.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

It is reported that, in order to promote a feeling of Imperial solidarity, the Empress Dowager proposes to establish a school either in Shanghai or Peking for the education especially of the sons of Chinese residing in the South Pacific islands. Their Excellen-

cies Yang Shin-chi and Yung Ching (President of the Ministry of Education) have been ordered to give their views regarding the proposal.

TAKUSHAN.

A Peking dispatch states that the Waiwupu has recently telegraphed to H.E. Sa Ying-tu, Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg, asking him to inquire whether Takushan, which has been occupied by the Japanese since the late war, is included among the leased territories of Port Arthur and Tairen (Dalny).

ARSENALS AND DOCKYARDS.

At a recent meeting of the Chun-chih'u (Grand Council), one of the Grand Councillors proposed to establish arsenals for the manufacture of rifles, ammunition and other weapons of war and dock and shipbuilding yards for the construction of warships, etc., as the first step towards the reorganization of the navy.

THE CENSOR AND THE PRESS.

A censor has recently addressed to the Throne a memorial in which he states that from henceforth no more Chinese newspapers under foreign tutelage should be allowed to be published in non-treaty ports, that those which are already in existence should be amenable to the new Press Laws, and that, should any editors dare to act in disregard of the laws, the "culprits" should be apprehended and severely punished.

THE CAPITAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, February 11.

THE HEIR APPARENT.

The Peking "Shih Pao" has been suspended for seven days for publishing inaccurate information of the intended adoption of another Taahkuo, or heir apparent for the late Emperor Tang Chih, (brother of the existing Emperor Kuang Hsu).

It will be remembered that the late well-established "Ching Pao" (not the "Peking Gazette") was suppressed by the Manchu Government last year for printing the same news, which led to the receipt of numerous telegrams and petitions from Chinese officials and merchants and from abroad against the proposal, because the *coup d'état* of 1898 and the 1900 Boxer risings in North China were mainly caused by the adoption of the now disinherited Pu Chin, son of the deposed Prince Tuan, as the Taahkuo of the late Emperor Tang Chih. This Prince and Boxer ringleader is still in Alashan, Mongolia; he is a relative of the Prince of this tribe. It was recently reported in Chinese official circles here that the Manchu Government intended to make use of him in some way in the Capital, but the report was denied, as the ex-Prince Tuan was deposed and exiled to Alashan in 1901 under Treaties with the Powers. Pu Chin was only once admitted into the Palace of the Empress Dowager in the latter part of 1903, and he has

not been much heard of since. The Emperor is now in good health and appears to be living on excellent terms with the Empress Dowager. During audiences, however, the Emperor simply sits beside the Empress Dowager and keeps silent all the time, unless he is asked directly by his Aunt and adopted mother to address some remark to a Minister about State affairs.

MATTERS EDUCATIONAL.

After careful consideration H.E. Chang Chih-tung, Comptroller-General of the Ministry of Education, has telegraphed to the various Viceroys and Governors advising them not to employ Chinese students who have not completed their studies in foreign countries. The idea, if strictly carried out in the provinces, is undoubtedly a good one, as there is a surprising number of men among the 10,000 Chinese students in Japan who went there, not with the real intention of acquiring modern education, but merely for the sake of obtaining government appointments in Peking and the various provinces after a short stay abroad. H.E. Li Chia-chu, Chinese Minister in Tokio, recently reported to the Ministry of Education that many Chinese officials and others have simply registered their names at the Chinese Legation and in some of the less known educational institutions in Japan either as government or private students, and have then returned to their homes in China, while some of them asked their relatives or friends to study for them so as to get the necessary certificates. Within my own experience, some of the so-called modern students from Japan do not even know how they got their certificates.

CHIENTAO AND MANCHURIA.

February 13.

Well-substantiated information reaches me that the reports (emanating mostly from Japanese sources) about the dispatch of money and arms to Chientao by the Chinese Government for the use of the Chinese troops are quite untrue and unfounded. China has not the least intention to court trouble with her strong neighbour over this question, as she is conscious of her limitations. On the other hand, several of the higher Chinese authorities here, such as T.E. Yuan Shih-kai and Liang Tun-yen, favour the opening of Chientao to the commerce of the Treaty Powers with a view to settle the dispute with Japan.

As far as the military aspect of the question is concerned there are still about 1,000 Chinese troops in the vicinity of Chientao, most of whom are soldiers of the old type, so that it is quite evident that their presence in the island does not constitute a guarantee against possible aggression on the part of the Japanese, who have greatly increased their military police since December last, under the pretext of keeping a watch on Koreans. Moreover Japan can send troops to Chientao from Korea under short orders in case of need.

Four old pattern machine guns were sent to the Governor of Kirin by the Luchunpu (Ministry of War) some time ago for the use of the Chinese troops in Central Manchuria in their operations against the Hunghtze. It is possible that this step has given rise to the story of the dispatch of arms and ammunition to Chientao. Again the two divisions of Luchun troops that were recently transferred to the Three Eastern Provinces from Peiyang for the preservation of peace are still for the most part distributed in Fengtien and Heilungkiang. All present indications point to the fact that the Chinese Government has no intention of sending any of these foreign-drilled troops to Chientao in any circumstances.

JAPAN'S ATTITUDE.

High local officials are of opinion that, judging from Japan's past and present attitude in the Chientao affair, a section of her advisers would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity to challenge China to fight in the same way as in 1894, in order to replete the Tokio treasury with a Chinese indemnity.

The negotiations between General Oshima, Japanese Governor-General of Kwantung (Liaotung) and Lt.-General Cheng Chao-chang at Tairen are practically at a standstill. It is reported in Chinese official circles here that, in order to settle the diplomatic question between China and Japan, some of the Powers have proposed to the Waiwupu that the subject should be submitted to arbitration.

DEATH OF THE
AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN
CONSUL-GENERAL.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death at the General Hospital yesterday morning of Herr E. von Hirsch, Consul-General for Austria-Hungary. Herr von Hirsch's death has come as a great shock to his numerous friends, for he was deservedly popular and held in general esteem. On Saturday last he was entertaining at the Consulate and appeared quite cheerful. He went out on Sunday, and after his return did some work in the afternoon, and it was then that he complained of feeling unwell for the first time. He could not sleep that night, and on Monday morning the doctor was summoned. When he was ordered to remain in bed and rest, it was assumed that he was suffering from an ordinary chill. At 6 p.m. on Monday Herr von Hirsch's condition became so serious that his doctor ordered him to be removed immediately to the General Hospital, where he was operated upon for appendicitis the same evening. The operation was satisfactory, but complications ensued, and the patient expired at 9.30 a.m. yesterday.

Herr von Hirsch was born at Josefstadt, in Bohemia, on September 30, 1862. He was educated at the

Oriental Academy at Vienna, a liberal university for training those intended for the Diplomatic and Consular services. He finished his course there in 1885, and began his career in the Foreign Office at Vienna the same year. The following year he came out to Shanghai for the first time as Attaché. In 1889 he was attached to the Austro-Hungarian Legation at Tokio as Vice-Consul, and later in the year he temporarily took charge of the Consulate at Yokohama. His next appointment was to Beyrout, in Syria, in 1892, and 1893 saw him attached to the Consulate-General at Warsaw. Thence he went to Alexandria. After a short stay at that place he went to Bombay as acting Consul, and in 1896 he was promoted full Consul and offered the post of Jerusalem, which, however he did not accept. In 1898 Herr von Hirsch went to Capetown as acting Consul, and a little later he came out to Shanghai, where he received the appointment of Consul-General in 1902. Herr von Hirsch was married during his stay at Capetown, and leaves a widow and two young children, to whom the sympathy of the whole foreign community will be extended in their bereavement. The late Consul General held the decoration of Chevalier of the Iron Crown, and also a Japanese Order.

The funeral Mass will take place in St. Joseph's Church, French Concession, at 9 a.m. to-morrow (Saturday), and the interment will follow at Bubbling Well Cemetery after the service.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE.

In connexion with the presentation of the Chinese view of Sino-Japanese relations which is given in another column by our Correspondent in the Capital, the following official *communiqué* on the same lines, emanating from Tokio, has special interest. The statement deals seriatim with the various questions that are engaging Chinese and Japanese diplomacy, and at greater length than a recent telegram on the subject from the same Correspondent.

In regard to the proposed Hsinmintun-Fakumen railway, the action of the British Government in recognizing the validity of Japan's contention may be held to have rendered the construction of the line improbable and thus to have eliminated this bone of contention.

Negotiations for the joint Sino-Japanese exploitation of the Yalu forests are still interrupted, but the Japanese are, however, actually working the right bank of the river. A satisfactory conclusion may not be attained immediately; but an amicable settlement is probable, unless unexpected obstacles present themselves.

In the matter of fishery rights in Manchurian waters, China has already recognized those rights to be enjoyed by Japanese inhabitants in Kuantung (Liaotung), and details only are now under consideration.

As to the salt manufacture in Kuantung, China has presented new overtures and a settlement, satisfactory on the whole, is expected before long.

The negotiations hinging on Japan's demand for supplementary articles to the existing postal regulations are not of a serious character. The delay of the *pourparlers* is not to be interpreted pessimistically in view of the fact that the *status quo* is to be maintained pending the conclusion of the supplementary provisions.

As to the telegraph question, the relative contentions are steadily approaching a common meeting ground and only one point is left unsettled. There is no particular necessity to hurry the negotiations, as Japanese telegraphs are working without any hitch. The point outstanding is to be arranged by the delegates of the two nations who attend the forthcoming international telegraph congress at Lisbon.

Careful investigations required for the Chientao question prevent any hasty settlement of the dispute.

On the whole, the main points at issue between the two nations have been largely settled, and those still outstanding are of minor importance or of a character requiring prolonged *pourparlers*. If China would refrain from advancing frivolous arguments, these questions might have been settled earlier. The presumption, however, that Japan and China are engaged in endless disputes is to be deprecated as not being founded upon actual facts. In particular it must be remembered that the problems that have arisen between the two countries since the Russo-Japanese War are of an exceedingly complicated character.

It is now stated that the Tatsu Maru, II, owned by the Satsuma Shokai, with ninety-four cases of fire-arms and forty cases of ammunition consigned from Kobe by the Ataka Shokai F. O. B. for Macao, left Kobe on January 26th and Moji on 30th, where she took in coal. In shipping the above articles, the Ataka Shokai obtained beforehand a certificate for the import thereof to the Macao Government. It was also duly authorized by the Kobe Customs house and water police. There is absolutely no indication showing that the Tatsu Maru attempted the smuggling of arms. The Tokio authorities have no information justifying the seizure of the Tatsu Maru by China and have already ordered the Consul in Canton to demand her release.

A SYMPOSIUM OF SPORT.

From Our London Correspondent.

January 29.

When the cable informed us that the American Inter-Collegiate athletic authorities were desirous of arranging a big contest between British and United States University men, most of us thought what a fine thing it would be, if it could be carried out. Oxford and

Cambridge athletes have hitherto only met Harvard and Yale cracks on the cinder path, but if the project suggested be carried out, the affair will be of far more importance. Not only would this be so from an athletic point of view, but also from the standpoint of the good it would do by bringing the best athletes of the Empire into contact. It is just the sort of thing the late Cecil Rhodes would have favoured. Our American cousins have started well by enlisting the co-operation of Lord Desborough, who is so keenly interested in the Olympic Games. His support may go a long way towards influencing the Oxford and Cambridge authorities. Many English University men are inclined to exclusiveness and on this account there is sure to be some opposition. Our home authorities have also strange ideas regarding the amateur status of the athletes at some of the American colleges outside Yale and Harvard. They ought to respect the judgement of the American Inter-collegiate Athletic Association officials, however, and also recognize that Yale and Harvard athletes would not take part in the annual Intercollegiate meeting if the entrants from other colleges were not all they should be.

HOW TO ARRANGE IT.

It is thought that the Olympic Games in July will bring many Varsity men to London, so that a date soon after the finish of the games would be the most suitable time for the proposed International Intervarsity Contest. No doubt many of America's Olympic representatives will be college men, but it is doubtful if a dozen Oxford and Cambridge athletes will gain places in our team. If, however, the challenge be accepted, it would be wise to hold the Oxford and Cambridge Sports in June. The cracks would then be in form for the English championship, and also the Olympic Games. Then, as to other British University men, some useful athletes might be expected from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and of course, Scotland and Ireland. Picking the British team would be somewhat difficult, as our various Collegian cracks do not meet at an annual contest, as in the States. Still the times and performances at the trial meetings would be a very fine guide, and a final trial might be held in London where there was any doubt about the respective ability of Overseas and Home cracks.

SHRUBB'S FINE PERFORMANCE.

Alfred Shrub, the little Horsham professional runner, recently met five American runners in a ten miles race at Boston, his rivals relieving each other at the end of each second mile. Even this did not prevent Shrub winning, so that the Americans could not have been very fast men. Shrub finished the journey in 51 mins. 33½ secs., which is over a minute faster than the best record by an American, viz. 52 mins. 38 secs. by W. D. Day. The writer saw the latter create these figures, the venue being Staten Island and the time October of 1889. E. C. Carter and S. Thomas of England were on the scratch

mark with Day. The writer, (who had beaten the three named in a four miles level race the previous week,) was also "favoured" with the post of honour, but reserved his efforts for another event as the limit was too long. This was shown in the race, as though Thomas and Lay ran splendidly, they failed to overhaul one of the long start division, though the American crack did run away from Thomas in the last mile and gain second place. To return to Shrubbs, his performance of getting within 52½ secs. of his world's record at Glasgow in November of 1904 is remarkable, when one considers the time of the year. No particulars as to whether the race was run indoors or out of doors, are as yet to hand, though it is probable it was the former.

MORE TROUBLE.

More trouble has arisen in connexion with the Olympic Games and this time it is confined to golfers. The Olympic officials say they invited the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St. Andrew's, to send a delegate to the Olympic Committee, but the club officials say no invitation was received. Anyway the Olympic Committee decided to hold both an Individual and Team Olympic competition and chose Deal as the venue. Unfortunately several well known players are opposed to the idea, apparently because a body other than a golfing society is promoting it. This may weaken our team or teams; yet even so, British golf ought to be well represented.

Writing about the ancient game, it looks as though the best balls will cost more in future. Several of the leading makers have agreed only to allow 3/- per dozen, instead of 6/- as formerly, for old balls returned, which will make each ball cost 3d. more.

BOXING.

Curley Watson of England is a prime favourite with French sportsmen since he scored such a fine win over Coenille, one of the best French boxers in the English style. The ex-sailor was fully a stone lighter than the Frenchman, which is a big handicap when little men are concerned. Most of the Frenchmen who saw the contest at Paris were amazed at the manner Watson shaped against his big rival, who was well behind on points when he retired in the sixth round with an injured wrist. Watson is now to meet Frank Erne of America, who, though perhaps not quite the boxer he was, is likely to prove a very tough customer for the Englishman.

Young Joseph of Aldgate has gradually been climbing the ladder of fame and his latest victory makes it apparent that he is right in the first flight. When he scored over J. Goldswain on a former occasion, the latter had recently returned from a trip to America and was not in the best condition. It was on this account that a second meeting was arranged in which Goldswain made a gallant bid for victory. It was the old story, however, of a strong, sturdy boxer, with youth on his side, proving too good for a more scientific, but less vigorous man, who is beginning to feel his years of

active work in the fist world. Joseph had the contest well won before it was half over. Although Goldswain made big efforts in the thirteenth and fourteenth rounds, he could never get in a knock-out blow and Joseph was well entitled to the decision at the expiration of the twenty rounds. The winner scales 10st. 2lbs. and he is now anxious to try conclusions with one of America's cracks at the weight.

ENGLAND'S RUGBY TEAM.

Though Wales beat England in the Rugby International match at Bristol on Saturday, the opinion is pretty general that the representatives of the Rose acquitted themselves very well. We are quite used to seeing Welshmen beat Englishmen on the Rugby football field and their triumph at Bristol enabled them, for the first time, to take the lead on the whole series with a total of twelve wins as against eleven by England. Their run of success in recent years has been wonderful and the reason is easy to explain. It all hinges on the matter of combination, for while the wearers of the Leek know each other's play to a nicety, the English fifteen is invariably something resembling a scratch side. This, of course, is entirely the fault of the Rugby Union officials, who year after year ignore sound advice "to pick the English team early in the season and then arrange a dozen trial matches, so that the selected may learn to combine properly." Considering some of the English players often meet for the first time (on the same side), it is a wonder they do as well as they do. It is all very well to try and please the supporters of the game in all parts of the country, but it does not result in victories. In Saturday's game the half-backs were new to each other, and yet there is no position on the field in which perfect understanding is more necessary. All things considered, the English side played up very well, and if there are no material changes, they will do better still against Scotland and Ireland.

SENSATIONAL START.

The Welshmen were quickly into their stride; a dropped goal by Bush, a penalty by Winfield, and a try (converted) from Bush giving them a lead of 12 points before the game was twenty minutes old. After this the home forwards—badly beaten at the start—showed up better, and during the rest of the game the Englishmen had a trifle the better of matters and once got within three points of their rivals. Just when a close finish looked likely, however, Gabe and Gibbs got over and both tries were converted, and though Birkett added another try for England, the visitors were able to claim an advantage of 28 points to 15.

POINTERS.

The outstanding feature of the game was the brilliancy of Bush, who was a great factor in the Welsh victory. Many South Africans would have felt strange to see Williamson (a Grahams-town boy) figuring at "half" with a coloured colleague, but the pair certainly combined very well. The former, by

the way, is the first Rhodes Scholar who has figured in an International Rugby match in England. Wales crossed England's line for five tries to the four by the beaten men, so there was not much in it in this respect. Fully 25,000 spectators were present, which conveys an idea of the popularity of Rugby football in the West of England.

THE SOCCER GAME.

The chief incidents of the League championship games on Saturday were the defeats of the leaders in the English and Scottish Leagues. Manchester United went under on visiting Sheffield United (2 goals to nil) and Falkirk had to acknowledge defeat (2-1) on the ground of Third Lanark. The English leaders are still far in front of all rivals, but Celtic and Dundee are now on terms with Falkirk. Another remarkable result was the defeat of Chelsea by Notts Forest, on the formers' ground, by 4 goals to two. The success of Birmingham on visiting Aston Villa is also worthy of special mention.

TURF MATTERS.

Owing to the injury to Persimmon, the services of Florizel II will be in considerable demand this season and the full brother of the 1896 Derby winner will stand at the Sandringham Stud during 1908. Writing of Florizel II reminds one that one of his offspring—Formia—won the recent Johannesburg Summer Handicap. Home sportsmen were also much interested in the first South African Derby and the venture ought to lead to improvement in the native-bred thoroughbred.

Home racing matters are a bit slack just now. Fortune was kind to the Hurst Park executive and the meeting on the banks of the Thames (once known as Happy Hampton) was carried through successfully. Matters were not so satisfactory at the Manchester fixture, however, one of the two day's racing scheduled having to be abandoned, owing to fog. The racing at both places, and also at Windsor, proved of an interesting character, though hardly of sufficient importance to warrant special comment.

CRICKET.

Home cricketers are awaiting the meeting of the M.C.C. on Monday with eagerness, as we shall then know the opinions of the county captains re the scheme of an Imperial Cricket contest. Some are known to be in favour, but others do not want to see the County Championship programme upset. Innovations are not much in favour among cricketers; otherwise they might see the utility of only playing the innings aside for county championship matches, which would enable three to be decided in a week.

DOWN UNDER.

The best news we have had from Australia lately is that A. O. Jones is in harness again. It was pleasing to learn that Hobbs had made a century against Tasmania and that Hardstaff had also trounced the bowling. That Gunn was in hospital with a slight sunstroke, however, was bad news to

hear, though the pill was sugared by the knowledge that A. O. Jones fielded substitute. After this we may look for him to lead his team to victory in the remaining Test matches, particularly if Hayes can only find his real form.

IN GENERAL.

The King of Spain is showing great keenness in the game of polo and promises to become a really fine player.

The Stade Bordelais Club team has won the Rugby Championship of France, beating Stade Français by 19 points to 0.

Rutt of Germany, one of the pair who won the recent six days' cycle race at New York, has just beaten Poulain of France in a fifty kilometres race behind human pacing at Paris.

Upwards of 7,000,000 spectators have attended the English (two divisions) and Southern League matches during the present season.

It is expected that a Lacrosse team from Harvard University will visit England during 1908.

The rowing authorities at Pennsylvania University want to arrange a match with the winners of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, but the English Varsity oarsmen do not favour the idea.

A Massey did eighteen holes of the Biarritz Golf course in sixty-four strokes recently and the Frenchman will be strongly fancied for his match with H. Vardon.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

From "The Navy League Journal."

The time has come for the Navy League to consider very seriously what action shall be taken in England when the new German Navy Bill becomes law. That it will be passed by the Reichstag in its present form may now be taken as practically certain, for the chief criticism in Germany of the new measure has been on account of its inadequacy, not on account of its enormous cost. There is a strong party in Germany which would like to see the Navy even more rapidly expanded, and a fleet provided with the extremest speed, capable of challenging Britain's position.

The German Navy is a most popular force in Germany, and the German people are prepared to make any sacrifice to increase it. These are things which, with all our wishes to live on the best of terms with Germany, we in this country cannot overlook. Every Navy Leaguer has therefore to reflect on the duty which rests with him. If the British Fleet is correspondingly strengthened and expanded, peace will be preserved. If it is not expanded, there will be a double temptation to war and a double risk of war—first on Germany's part, where there has always existed a strong Chauvinistic party, which has so far been restrained by the knowledge that the German Fleet has been distinctly inferior in force to the British; secondly, on England's part,

where as the forces of the two navies move, the German force up and the British force down, there may be risk of ending an intolerably dangerous situation by an appeal to arms before the British Navy has become too weak to fight.

Thus we have reached a point where not only a large, but also a very large naval programme for this country is vital in the interests of peace; where every Englishman who is not against his own country must hope and pray that the British Admiralty and Government will deal firmly and wisely with the emergency that has arisen, and where hopes and prayers must be backed by action if the Government does not respond adequately. The Navy League must fight for a strong British Navy as never before in all its history. It is the true Peace Society, and it must confront this crisis in a manner worthy of its lofty aims.

THE GERMAN PROPOSALS.

And first to restate the facts as to the new German programme, for though statistics are arid things, they are necessary as the foundation of action in this country. The following are the German programmes for the next few years under the new Bill:—

		Total estimates.
1908...	3 Dreadnoughts improved.	£16,600,000
	1 Invincible improved	
	2 protected cruisers	
	12 destroyers	
1909...	3 Dreadnoughts improved.	£20,000,000
	1 Invincible improved	
	2 protected cruisers	
	12 destroyers	
1910...	4 Dreadnoughts improved.	£23,000,000
	2 protected—cruisers	
	12 destroyers	
1911...	2 Dreadnoughts improved	£23,000,000
	1 Invincible	
	2 small cruisers	
	12 destroyers	

With submarines, mining and repair ships in addition.

In 1910, however, yet another Navy Bill may or will be introduced by the German Government, further expanding the navy and increasing the programme. Such a measure has been foreshadowed by Admiral von Tirpitz's statements in the Reichstag and by semi-official announcements which have appeared in the German Press. The really important facts which have to be considered are the programmes for the next three years, which have risen to four large armoured ships annually, all to be of about 20,000 tons, and the immense increase in the expenditure, which between 1907 and 1911 will advance by about £10,000,000.

Over and above this outlay the sum of £10,000,000 will be expended on the widening of the Kiel Canal, and will be provided for by special votes outside the estimates. At the same

time, while Germany is building Dreadnoughts fast, she is making provision for their accommodation in her ports on a scale which England has not attempted to approach. Eight docks capable of containing a German Dreadnought are either completed, building or projected on the North Sea.

RAPID GERMAN CONSTRUCTION.

The new German ships are clearly to be much more rapidly built than in the past. This can be seen from the large votes for the vessels to be laid down in 1908, which, indeed, seem to foreshadow the completion of the units then laid down in two years, or even less, thus justifying Admiral von Tirpitz's statement in the Reichstag that Germany builds as fast as England. We give the votes for the new ships in 1907 and 1908 by way of a contrast:

	No. 1907 vote.
New Battleships	2 £273,000
New Armoured Cruisers. 1	249,000

	No. 1908 vote.
New Battleships	3 £479,000
New Armoured Cruisers. 1	400,000

It is a suggestive fact that the first vote for the British Dreadnought, which was completed in twelve months, was only £429,000, or less than that for each of the new German battleships in 1908. It is also a suggestive fact that the first votes for the three British battleships which were to be laid down this year, but not one of which had been actually begun at the date of writing, totalled between the three just £500,000, or only £170,000 apiece. In view of these facts we have to choose between two alternatives—either the new German ships are going to be of unprecedented size, which is not probable, or they are going to be built with unprecedented rapidity.

NOT A PAPER PROGRAMME.

Some surprise and disappointment will have been felt at the attitude assumed by British service journals, which are known to be in close connexion with the Admiralty, towards the new German Bill. They have taken up the position that the German proposals are only "paper" ones, that the new battleships are mere fictions, that Berlin "is prone to indulge in extravagant promises of ships she never manages to build," and they have contended that there is no need for the Admiralty to reply to the unprecedented efforts which Germany is making.

Such an attitude to us appears neither wise nor patriotic; it overlooks the essential fact that the money will be voted for the ships in question, and that, even if it be not spent within the term fixed, it remains at the service of the German authorities for the purpose of accelerating construction in future years, and is not, as in England, used for paying off the national debt. It overlooks the fact that every single German vessel in the programmes of 1900-1905 was laid down at the appointed date, and that the delays of 1906 were due entirely to the redesigning of the ships of that year, in order to produce much more powerful units. It overlooks the largeness of the votes

for the new German ships to be begun next year. It minimises the immense increase in the German expenditure. And when it asserts that Germany, because she has adopted the big single-calibre battleship, will have to spend largely on her naval ports, it forgets that England must do the same.

THE PROBLEM OF DOCKS.

With the exception of one private dock at Newcastle, there is not one single British dock on the North Sea accessible to the new types of big ships, and the provision of one dock at Rosyth will not go far to remedy our weaknesses in this direction. At the best, in the distant future, the British Navy will have but two docks for Dreadnoughts in the North Sea, when the German Navy will have eight. A large vote for dock accommodation is as vital as a large vote for new battleships. England has here to make up much leeway and to undo the consequences of four years' neglect of Rosyth, four years of accumulation of liabilities and responsibilities.

MR. STEAD'S COUNSEL.

In the December number of the "Review of Reviews" Mr. Stead has written:

"There is no question as to what John Bull will reply to the German programme, be it little or big. He will say that he is sorry; but if it must be so, he cannot help himself. Without any unfriendly feeling he accepts in all courtesy this challenge which is offered him. He wishes for nothing more than the maintenance of the *status quo*.

"He has no army to speak of; his only defence is his Navy. The maintenance of its unquestioned superiority is for him a matter of life and death. His readiness to secure that supremacy is the condition of the existence of the British Empire. . . . *When the Kaiser lays down one keel we lay down two. That is the formula of safety.* We shall no more discuss it than a swimmer discusses the necessity of keeping his head above water."

To lay down two Dreadnoughts or Invincibles for each German one, that is the *sine qua non*; that is the principle for which the Navy League must fight. It involves a programme in the coming year of.

- 6 Dreadnoughts of 20,000 tons
- 2 Invincibles of 20,000 tons.

This is "the formula of safety"; this is the formula which will maintain the two-Power standard, as the present Government has repeatedly pledged itself to maintain it. From it the Navy League must not be beaten back by quibbles, nor talk of "dictating to experts," for the experts are agreed that the command of the sea depends first and foremost on large armoured ships and destroyers. In calling for it the Navy League will only be supporting the experts if these do their duty; it will only be discharging the grave responsibility to the nation which rests with those who have studied naval affairs. Nothing less will do, and in view of the rapidity with which the new German vessels are to be built, we must seek a definite assurance that the two

British keels will go down on the stocks the moment the corresponding German vessel has been begun, and will be built as fast. We must prepare to face estimates of £40,000,000, with over and above large estimates for building two British docks to each German one. To adapt Mr. Stead, "we need no more discuss this proposal than a swimmer discusses keeping his head above water."

UNPATRIOTIC DEMANDS FOR REDUCTIONS.

But as facts have to be faced, and as this article is an appeal to Navy Leaguers to face them in their reality, we cannot overlook the demand put forward, since the new German proposals were known, by 136 British members of Parliament, for further reductions in the Navy estimates. We leave Mr. Stead to answer this craven and foolish demand. But we have to remember that it has been made, and to be on the watch accordingly. Let Navy Leaguers throughout the country and Empire keep their eyes steadily fixed on the naval programme for 1908, and if it does not come up to Mr. Stead's minimum, prepare to exert themselves to the utmost. The League itself should accept no surrender on this head. If the Admiralty experts do not obtain the "Stead programme," it must move public opinion. If it fails, that means the end of the British Empire as we have known it; if it succeeds with its small resources, in the face of the frowns of authority, it will have the consciousness that it has rendered yet another service to the nation, comparable with that which it achieved when, in 1898, it demanded and secured a special British programme in reply to the Russian extraordinary programme of that year. The watch-dog must bark when real danger arises, else it is more dangerous than the bitterest and most perfidious enemy.

H. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, February 20.

Before Sir HAVILLAND DE SAUSMAREZ, Judge, and Messrs. C. ALDERON, E. MOLLER, H. T. ALLEN, A. M. MACLEAN and A. A. PENNY, Jurors.

REX. v. IVOR THOMAS.

The hearing of the charges against Ivor Thomas was resumed.

The Crown Advocate, assisted by Mr. McKean, prosecuted; the defence was conducted by Mr. T. Morgan Phillips and Mr. R. A. Frost.

Detective-Inspector McDowell stated that he had known accused for six or seven years. He heard of the transfer of the Watch Club from Black to Thomas, early in November. A day or two later he met accused in Nanking Road and asked him about it. Witness told him he thought the business was a swindle and that it would be better for him to have nothing to do with it. Thomas replied that it was a sound concern and that he thought it was a

profitable one. Witness got off his bicycle when he met Thomas on purpose to speak to him about it. Witness believed what he said and meant it seriously.

Cross-examined—Witness had known accused intimately and had seen him frequently during the past six or seven years. He had been in regular and respectable employment until he joined the Watch Club, and he bore a good character in Shanghai. Witness had not investigated the financial position of the Watch Club. He did not know whether accused had. Witness had never set up as a financial expert. He had a few Docks about three years ago. He advised accused against the Watch Club because it was a lottery.

Re-examined—Witness had seen in the papers that the Shanghai Watch Club was barred in Manila. Many verbal complaints, too, had been made. Witness identified a newspaper cutting with regard to the Watch Club in Manila. (His Lordship read the cutting.)

G. H. Thomson, sworn, stated that he was a chartered accountant. Under instructions from the Crown Advocate he had investigated the Watch Club's accounts. Witness understood the system of book-keeping by card. Witness described the books he found on the premises, 44 Szechuen Road, and then went through the cheque book he had found there. The payment of \$50 to Mr. Silva-Netto in January 18 closed the Club's account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Witness then went into the payments into the bank. There were no assets in the bank, and he had not discovered any other bank account. Besides the amounts debited to Black witness found no amounts outstanding in the books. The only cash he found in the premises was \$2, attached to a letter. The only proper books witness found were the compradores' records and the bank books. He found no records of the agencies at Tientsin and Hankow; he understood these agencies had been sold. He did not find any book containing the capital account. The trial balance sheet he had found was an ordinary one. So far as he could see the assets of the Club consisted of the monies owing by Mr. Black, the furniture, and the balance in the hands of the compradores, if correct. There appeared to be eighty-one clubs, but the drawer marked seventy-eight contained no cards. The drawers did not each contain forty members: none of the clubs had forty members. (Witness handed in a detailed statement of the membership of the clubs). The average number of members to each club was twenty-three. None of the Class "B" clubs were full; their average membership was about twenty-seven. (Witness explained to the Court how the membership cards were filled in with the members' names and payments.) He did not find any loose current cards lying about in the office. Witness found no trace of the Club numbers having been changed in such a way as to suggest that the clubs were being compressed. If forty pipes were put

into the leather bottle each week and the cards represented the true position of the Club, there were many chances in favour of the Club, as the numbers did not all represent members. Some of the cards were marked "Watch Delivered." He had found cards with names, but no entries of payments on the back. He had been through the lists of winning numbers. On January 11 the winning number in Club 81 was 38. There was a card numbered 38 in that club's drawer. On the back of the card there were payments on January 18 and 25, and the name was C. E. Layard, Cornabé, Eckford & Co., Chefoo. In some cases he had not found cards corresponding with the winning numbers, in the drawers. Witness had not found the numbers missing from the drawers, anywhere. Some of the cards showed payments in advance. Others were marked "cancelled" "a watch was delivered against this receipt" with a rubber stamp. From some of these, as there were no entries of payments on the back, it appeared as if watches had been given away for nothing. There were yet other cards with no payments marked, and not marked "cancelled" or "watch delivered" but bearing a Chinese name only. Some were merely marked "member." Witness had made an analysis of a Club running for forty weeks. From this table it appeared that if there were forty members in the Club, and the vacancies were filled each week, at the end of the fortieth week \$1,600 would have been received. Forty watches at \$26 would have been given out—an expenditure of \$1,040. If the Club then suddenly stopped, after the forty original members had drawn watches—the most favourable thing that could happen—the liabilities to the remaining members would amount to \$780. This was without taking into consideration any members who, having paid \$40, would be entitled to watches.

There would thus be a loss of \$220, worked out on this favourable basis. It was probable, however, that at this time the Club would be giving out two watches a week instead of one.

His Lordship said that these figures were obvious, if based upon the supposition that at the end of forty weeks the Club came to an end.

Witness said that Mr. Black was mistaken when he said that there was a gain of \$14, on each drawing, to the Club. There had obviously been drawings when the clubs had not been complete. If the membership of the Club was under twenty-six, and only that number of pips were put into the bottle weekly, the loss to the Club would be a very heavy one.

Cross-examined—Witness's examination of the books was only for the period from November 12 to the winding up of the Club. Presuming the amounts received were correct, the monies expended had been spent legitimately on behalf of the Club. Considerable sums—amounting in all to \$6,198—had been spent "on account Black." Witness had heard that Black had handed over a stock of watches in

the hands of agents, in consideration of the debt to Hope Bros. Witness had not discovered any trace of these watches in the books. He had been told that sums were outstanding in the outports, including \$2,900 for the sale of the Tientsin business and \$2,500 from Hankow for the sale of the business there. He could find no trace of any monies being handed over to the management at the time of the transfer. The payment of \$9,000 by the Watch Club on behalf of Black must have seriously hampered the business and brought it to a close sooner than would otherwise have happened. Witness had met accused before this case. During Black's time proper books were kept; since then no proper books had been kept.

Re-examined—There was no means of telling whether the receipts during Thomas' management, had been correctly entered. Mr. Frost told witness about the debts at Tientsin and Hankow. He found no books of the Gillette Company. Black kept a ledger and a journal in his time.

By a Juror—When Thomas took over the concern it was difficult to state whether the concern was solvent or not. The new company paid a large sum and took over the running clubs, without receiving any benefit from the past business. Witness considered the Club to be transferred on a very unsound basis.

T. C. Gillespie said that he took a chance in the Watch Club about May last and continued payment until September, when he transferred his ticket to a friend. It drew a winning number on November 21 and witness went to see accused on the 25th and told him about the transfer. Thomas was quite agreeable and said that he would give the watch to any one who produced the notice he had sent, at any time. Witness's friend had another ticket and wanted goods to the value of \$80, so he went on making payments until January 18 on his friend's behalf. About that time, on the day of the drawing, witness called in to see Thomas. Black also was present. Witness had a conversation with them. He asked Thomas whether the notice was still good and Thomas assured him that it was payable as soon as presented. The place was closed after that.

Cross-examined—Witness never asked for the watch; he only asked if his interest were transferable.

Kaw Tse-sen stated that he began to take chances in the Watch Club in November. He made forty payments and then, in December, applied for a watch. He was told to wait a few days. He applied again and was told that the Club was moving to Szechuen Road, and every one was so busy that he was again asked to wait. The third time, he called at Szechuen Road and waited from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Then he could wait no longer.

Cross-examined—Witness applied for his watch to the compradore with the disfigured nose. It was January 6 or 7 when witness called for the third time. There was a crowd of Chinese and

foreigners, waiting for watches. He did not know when the Club moved.

Re-examined—The premises were open when witness went round for the third time. The last time he went was on Saturday, three days later.

By Mr. Phillips—When witness was there the third time other people were receiving their watches.

By his Lordship—One or two people received watches. Witness waited most of the time in the compradore's office. Lots of people were waiting there, but he did not see the compradore hand over any watches. Some watches were handed to Portuguese and Japanese by a foreigner there.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

After the adjournment the evidence for the prosecution was continued.

Leopold Straedmans, accountant in the Sino-Belgian Bank, stated that on January 17 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas called at the bank and opened an account in the name of Mrs. Thomas and deposited Tls. 3,300 in bank notes. No further sum had been paid in to the credit of that account. On January 20 Mrs. Thomas drew a cheque for Tls. 3,000, and later a cheque for Tls. 25. On January 21 the balance of Tls. 275 was drawn out. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Thomas had an account with the bank before.

By the jury—The money was paid in in tael notes. It was also paid out in tael notes.

Henry William Lowrie, who was a member of the Watch Club, repeated the evidence he gave in the Police Court. Witness made thirty-one payments up to January 18. He then took \$9 to the office and the thirty-one tickets and asked for a watch, but he was told that there was no one to receive the money. Witness had not received a watch, nor goods to the value of \$40.

Zie Chung-ping, a clerk employed by the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, stated that he became a member of Club No. 26 and he joined twenty-two other clubs on behalf of his friends. Witness made his last payment in connexion with a particular club on January 17 and received a receipt dated January 18. He then became entitled to a silver watch, having made twenty-four weekly payments into that club. He presented his twenty-four receipts on Monday, January 20, but found the premises closed up. The sixty-cent Watch Club was started by Chinese, but it was taken over by the Shanghai Watch Club. The Chinese Silver Merchants' Watch Club was sold to Mr. Black in November. When they transferred the Club Mr. Black promised to give them one-tenth of the profits of the Shanghai Watch Club. The only money witness received was \$350, which was paid for watches sold by the Chinese Watch Club to the Shanghai Watch Club. Witness did not get one-tenth of the profits of the Shanghai Watch Club. The agreement to receive a share in the profits was cancelled by witness on November 23 and he was glad to get out of it without payment being made to him.

Cross-examined—Witness was not a director of the Watch Club. His name might be on the agreement, but that agreement was cancelled.

A Japanese witness gave evidence of being unable to get a watch from the Club. He called about nine times to try and get it. He had never seen prisoner there.

Mr. G. H. Thomas, chartered accountant, recalled, said that the old compradore, according to the books found in the Watch Club, owed the Club \$692 and the new compradore owed \$1,449 less \$75.

The Crown Advocate was given permission to call the compradore.

C. S. Chang was then cautioned.

The Crown Advocate—You speak English.

Witness (in good English)—Chinese. I cannot speak English very well (Laughter.)

Witness said that he became compradore in February 1907 and was compradore until January, 1908. He owed the Watch Club \$600 odd, but he had a bill against the Club which made the account square. The Club owed him money for wages, advertisements, newspapers and commission to the extent of \$800 or \$900. Witness left on January 10 when Mr. Thomas said a new compradore was coming. Witness asked for his salary, etc., but did not get it.

Cross-examined—Witness did not know that Mr. Black was to be paid \$10,000 by Mr. Dooley for the Shanghai Watch Club. Mr. Black owed witness and another man \$3,000. Witness had no claim on the Shanghai Watch Club during the management of Mr. Thomas. The book showing the balance of \$692 against witness was correct. The money which witness said was due to him became due before the end of November. At the interview when Mr. Bassett and Mr. Frost were present witness said that Mr. Black did not owe him money and that he would hand over the \$692. \$500 was owing to witness for November.

Re-examined—Witness had not been paid the account to the end of November.

By his Lordship—Mr. Thomas did not owe witness any wages for the time before he dismissed him. The \$500 for November was owing by Black.

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution.

Mr. Phillips said that he proposed to call accused, Mr. Dooley and two accountants—Messrs. Adams and Porter.

His Lordship said that he proposed to conclude the case and speeches on Friday, so that he could have Saturday morning for summing up and for the jury to consider their verdict.

Mr. Phillips asked if accused could go to his office for an hour or so.

His Lordship—Yes, certainly.

Mr. Phillips in reply to his Lordship said that he would not be more than two hours on Friday morning.

The Court then adjourned until next day.

H. M. POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, February 19.

Before G. W. KING, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

REX (S. M. POLICE) v. BILGEE SINGH.

Bilgee Singh, a watchman of Range Road, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly in Range Road at 7.30 p.m. on the 18th instant, and with having assaulted Indian P.C. 295 while in the execution of his duty at the same time and place.

Indian P.C. No. 295 said that he was on duty in Range Road on the 18th instant and between 5 and 7 p.m. he saw the defendant and another Indian continually annoying Chinese passers by, playing with them and pinching their cheeks. Whenever witness went towards them, they retired into a shop where the defendant is employed, and when witness went away they came out again and played with the Chinese. At 7 p.m. Native P.C. No. 200 came on duty and then witness went up to the defendant and told him to cease behaving in that way. Thereupon the defendant struck witness across the head and hands with a stick. The Chinese constable then blew his whistle and an Indian sergeant came up and assisted witness to take the defendant to the police station. When the native constable blew his whistle, the other Indian watchman, who had also assaulted witness, ran away. The other watchman's name was Dhulip Singh.

Native P. C. No. 200 stated that he went on duty in Range Road at 7 p.m. on the 18th instant. He then saw the last witness standing in the road and saw two watchmen come out of a shop; one of the watchmen was the defendant. Indian P. C. No. 295 went up to the defendant and pulled him. The defendant retaliated and a struggle ensued. Witness blew his whistle and an Indian sergeant came up and assisted to take the defendant to the station.

Indian Sergeant No. 191 stated that when returning from the Rifle Range about 7 p.m. on the 18th instant he heard the sound of a police whistle. He ran into Range Road and there saw Indian P. C. No. 295 and the defendant struggling together. The defendant was very drunk and witness helped to arrest him and to take him to the station.

P.C. Aiers (104) stated that he was on duty at Hongkew Station when the defendant was brought in by two Indian policemen. The defendant was very drunk and much excited. Witness locked the man up. Indian P.C. No. 295's turban was loose and covered with mud and the defendant had a slight cut on his right arm.

The defendant said that he was on duty at No. 52 Markham Road, when Indian constable No. 295 came up and interfered with him. Three Indian policemen assaulted him and tore out a lot of his hair. He was not drunk. The Indian sergeant wished to get him removed from the Hongkew district. He wished to call Dhulip Singh as a witness for the defence.

Dhulip Singh said that he was employed as a watchman in North Thibet Road. He was with the defendant when the latter went on duty at 7 p.m. on the 18th instant and remained with him about half-an-hour. He saw the Indian constable get hold of the defendant by the hair, and the Indian sergeant also struck the defendant. Neither witness nor the defendant was drunk. Afterwards witness had a drink, which went to his head, and then he went to the Police Station to find his friend.

His Worship said that the defendant would be convicted on the charge of being drunk, and would be fined \$10, or in default of payment would be sentenced to five days' imprisonment. The evidence of Indian P.C. No. 295 was most unsatisfactory. If, as he said, the defendant was annoying Chinese for two hours the constable was neglecting his duty by not arresting the man until the arrival of the Chinese constable. It seemed improbable that Chinese would allow themselves to be molested for more than two hours without calling in the assistance of the police. He thought the constable's conduct should be inquired into.

Sergeant Goddard said that he would bring the constable's conduct to the notice of Capt. Barrett.

REX (S. M. POLICE) v. DHULIP SINGH.

Dhulip Singh, a watchman, was charged with having been drunk and incapable in the Hongkew Police Station compound at 9.45 p.m. on the 18th instant.

Sergeant Goddard stated that when he was on duty in the Hongkew Station charge-room at 9.45 p.m. on the 18th instant, his attention was called by two Indian sergeants to the fact that the defendant was asleep in the Indian compound. Witness aroused the man and found that he was very drunk, so he locked him up. Dhulip Singh was now recognized by Indian Sergeant No. 191 and Indian P. C. 295 as the man who in company with Bilgee Singh had assaulted the constable in Range Road; he would like to add to the original charge, a charge of assaulting the constable.

Indian Sergeant No. 191 stated that at 9 p.m. on the 18th instant he was going on duty at Hongkew Station and saw the defendant, who was very drunk, in the kitchen of the Indian quarters. The defendant had upset a bag of flour all over the floor, and some glasses had been overturned, but not broken. He recognized the defendant as the man who was with Bilgee Singh in Range Road the same evening when Indian P.C. No. 295 was assaulted.

Indian P.C. No. 295 said that he identified the defendant as the man who came to Bilgee Singh's assistance in Range Road. The defendant struck witness twice.

Native P.C. No. 200 said that he saw the defendant in Range Road with Bilgee Singh, but did not see him strike the Indian constable.

The defendant denied having assaulted the Indian constable, but admitted

being found in Hongkew Station compound.

His Worship dismissed the charge of assault, but on the charge of having been drunk and incapable ordered the defendant to pay a fine of \$5, or in default of payment to be imprisoned for three days, with hard labour.

REX v. DEVA SINGH.

Deva Singh, a railway guard on the S.-N. Railway, was brought up on remand, charged with kidnapping a Chinese boy from Changchow city to his room, where he did feloniously and maliciously wound him with a knife on the head and hands, contrary to Statute 24 and 25 Vic. cap 100, sect. 42, and a further charge of criminal assault was brought against him under section 62 of the same Act.

Mr. Walker (Messrs. Hanson, McNeill and Jones) appeared on behalf of the complainant and the Shanghai-Nanking Railway Company.

The morning's hearing was occupied with the evidence of the complainant and his cross-examination by the accused, at the conclusion of which the accused was again remanded in custody until 10 a.m. next day.

Shanghai, February 20.

Before F. S. A. BOURNE, Esq.,
sitting as Police Magistrate.

REX v. GUNDAR SINGH.

Gundar Singh (P. C. No. 240), constable in the Shanghai Municipal Police Force and attached to Harbin Road Police Station, was charged with having feloniously stolen the sum of thirty cents from the person of one Ching Yung-zeang, in Yuenfong Road Extension at 0.20 p.m. on the 17th instant, contrary to Statute 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 96, sect. 40.

Ching Yung-zeang, the complainant, stated that he came to Shanghai on the 17th instant from the country to buy rice. He had in his hand a basket, and put it on the ground in order to fasten his belt. The accused then came up and said he would fine him thirty cents for a breach of the regulations. Witness said that he had not got thirty cents and the accused then searched witness's pocket and took away his purse. The accused said that if he did not pay thirty cents he would be taken to the Police Station, where he would have to pay one dollar. Witness offered to go to the station, whereupon the accused smacked him on the face and gave him his purse back, after taking out thirty cents. Accused then drove witness back into the country. Witness afterwards went to the Police Station and reported the matter. The Police officer sent for the accused and gave witness twenty cents with which to buy rice. The officer told witness to come to the Station again next morning.

A countryman gave evidence that he saw the accused slap the complainant and drive him away. This took place in front of witness's door. Witness did not see the accused take the purse from the complainant, but he saw the purse afterwards and it then contained

only ten cents. Complainant told him that the purse had previously contained forty cents.

By Sub-Inspector Merrison—Witness saw the purse in the accused's hands and saw him return it.

Sub-Inspector Merrison, sworn, said that at 0.45 p.m. on the 17th instant he investigated this matter in the presence of the accused and complainant. The accused said that he had arrested the complainant for committing a nuisance and was bringing him to the Station, but the man lay down and would not walk, so he smacked him across the face and let him go. Accused denied that he took the purse, but asked leave to go to his box to get thirty cents to give to the complainant. The accused had not got thirty cents in his pocket then, but had known what he was brought to the Station for.

The accused, sworn, said that at 1 p.m. on the 17th instant he saw two Chinese committing a nuisance. One ran away and he arrested the other (the complainant), who abused him. The man would not come to the Station, but lay down on the ground, and asked to be let go. As the man had no money, and two Chinese gentlemen asked him to let the man go, he did so. Witness then went back to his beat, from which he was called by the Sub-Inspector. Witness told the Inspector that he had not stolen the money, and offered to give the complainant thirty cents rather than go before the Captain-Superintendent.

By Sub-Inspector Merrison—The complainant lay down in the road; the road was not dirty.

Sub-Inspector Merrison informed his Worship that the so-called road was a dirty path. There was no dirt on the complainant's clothes when he came to the Station.

His Honour said that he believed the evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution and found that the charge was proved. This was a serious offence and the accused would be sentenced to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

The Health and Vigour of an individual depend upon the quantity and quality of the blood. When the tissues have been at work, there are thrown into the blood waste products, and if these be not eliminated but (through any cause) detained in the blood, they influence nutrition and function and finally produce organic disease.—"The Humanitarian." In cases of Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, the effects of Clarke's Blood Mixture are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.—ADVT.

Before G. W. KING, Esq.,

Police Magistrate.

REX v. DEVA SINGH.

Deva Singh, a railway guard on the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, was brought up on remand, charged under Statute 24 and 25 Vic., cap. 100, sect. 62, with having criminally assaulted a Chinese boy from Changchow city.

His Worship found the defendant guilty and sentenced him to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

MASS OF ECZEMA ON LITTLE GIRL

Not Washed for Eight Months, by
Doctor's Orders—Was Miserable,
Suffering Terribly—Had to Tie
Hands to Stop Scratching—Pa-
rents Lost Heart, but One Cake
of Cuticura Soap and One Box of

CUTICURA TOOK OFF EVERY BIT OF HUMOUR

"I want to let you know what a wonderful cure Cuticura Remedies effected on my little girl. There came a rash over the little one's face when she was a month old. My wife took the child up to the doctor's to see what it was, and he told her it was gum rash. She brought her home and let it go on for a month, but as it got no better I would have her take the child to another doctor's. He told my wife that the baby had got blood eczema and gave her some medicine and ointment, and told my wife not to wash the child. We were doctoring the child for eight months, but she was no better at the end of the eight months than she was when we took her first. You can imagine how miserable the child was, not being washed. We had to tie the little one's hands when we took her to bed, to prevent her from scratching her face, as she made it bleed so if her hands were at liberty. I was recommended to try Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment, but we were doubtful at first, as we had almost lost heart, but my wife said we had given the doctors a good trial and they had done no good, and the child was so miserable not being washed, so we said we would give the Cuticura Remedies a trial. The first time my wife washed the child with Cuticura Soap and used Cuticura Ointment our daughter seemed like a new child, as she did not offer to scratch so much and seemed a lot easier. She was one mass of oozing about the face and shoulders, but the first box of Cuticura Ointment and a bar of Cuticura Soap took every bit off her. The neighbours said it would come on again, as it had gone off too quick, but the child is three years old now and she has not had any signs of it since. G. Williams, 86 Sea Brook Rd., near Wednesbury, Staffs., Eng., Aug. 26, 1906."

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children, and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin, Cuticura Ointment to soothe the Skin, and Cuticura Blood Purifier (the only one) to Purify the Blood. A Single Set of the great. Sold throughout the world. Dealers: London: 27, Charterhouse Sq.; E. Town: 4, Col. St.; Cape Town, etc.: B. K. Paul, 4, Col. St.; and Chem. Corp., Sole Proprietors. Post-free, Cuticura Book on Skin Diseases.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

PIECE-GOODS.

From Messrs. LIBERT & Co.'s weekly Report, dated
Shanghai, February 20, 1908.

There is distinctly more business doing this week principally for the River Ports and Korea; buyers for the Northern Ports are also making inquiries for goods and have made fair purchases where sellers have been willing to meet the demand; further advances are, however, difficult to obtain and as prices in the producing markets are getting closer to values here, holders are disposed to make sales under replacing cost for prompt clearance. The Korean demand is particularly welcome after the long period of stagnation in that market. There is still an absence of life in the Tientsin trade, but dealers are hopeful that more healthy conditions will be established in that market as the year progresses.

Some forward business has been done in both American light weights and English shirtings. There is little doubt that Lancashire has now an active competitor in America for the finer qualities of grey shirtings; within the last month orders have been placed in America for which Lancashire manufacturers have not had an opportunity of quoting, and this at a time when many looms in Lancashire are reported to be idle. Throughout the long period of good trade, manufacturers in Lancashire have been independent of demand from China which did not run on the style of makes suitable also for India; in the last few years American manufacturers have been cultivating the trade in finer goods and as the pure goods made in the States are in many cases preferred to the Lancashire makes, a portion of that trade has already virtually been transferred. As in the case of drills and sheetings, if Lancashire wants to retain its old hold on the China trade it will now be necessary to make goods in imitation of established American makes.

Fancy goods are participating to a certain extent in the better inquiry, but prices are still unsatisfactory.

Yarns are quiet; Bombay is a more willing seller, but sales are not easy to effect in quantity. A small business at full rates is reported in Japanese yarns, but dealers here are not disposed to take as much interest in this trade as formerly, seeing that Japanese importers are offering their yarns at nearly all the Outports, and it is said even in interior markets.

GREY SHIRTINGS 8½-lb.—Inquiries from the country markets have come in fairly freely during the week and previous prices have been well maintained. Sales are reported in Pighead (3,000 pieces) at Tls. 3.50, Two Fish (3,000 pieces) at Tls. 3.30, Green Two Boy (3,000 pieces) at Tls. 3.25, Blue Dragon and Seven Children at Tls. 3.22½, Blue Joss at Tls. 3.20, Blue Swan at Tls. 3.15, Stag at Tls. 3.10, Four Men at Tls. 3.05, and Round Beaver at Tls. 2.97½. Prices at auction were steady to firm.

4-lb. to 7-lb.—A sale of Horseman 7-lb. at Tls. 2.00 is all that has transpired. Auctions steady.

9-lb. to 11-lb.—Market continues firm all round and the following business has been effected mostly for the Yangtze valley: Motor Car (5,000 pieces) at Tls. 4.45, Gold Stag at Tls. 4.25, Red Cock (2,000 pieces) at Tls. 3.80-5, Nine Dragon (2,500 pieces) at Tls. 3.80, Green Two Boys (2,500 pieces) at Tls. 3.80, Fisherman at Tls. 3.80, Red Large House at Tls. 3.75, Man and Umbrella (2,500 pieces) at Tls. 3.70, Dragon and Tiger at Tls. 3.70, Two Men at Tls. 3.70 and Lotus (3,000 pieces) at Tls. 3.65-70. At the auctions prices were firm on the whole though there was a weak spot here and there.

12-lb. 36-in.—There is still a good deal of life in the market and prices remain steady throughout. Sales are mentioned in Wild Man and Spear Z.Z.Z. at Tls. 4.70, Soldier Three "Kong" (3,000 pieces) at Tls. 4.60, Soldier A.A.A. (3,000 pieces) at

Tls. 4.60, Soldier A.A. (3,000 pieces) at Tls. 4.55, Man and Flag at Tls. 4.40, Two Soldiers Three "Tuck" at Tls. 4.40, Horsesoldier R.R. R. at Tls. 4.10 and Soldier (3,000 pieces) at Tls. 4.00. These goods were particularly strong at the auctions.

T.-CLOTHS.—We hear of business in small quantities of Lady and Flower at Tls. 2.25, and Man and Flag at Tls. 2.22½. Auction chops improved about 2½ candareens.

JEANS.—Demand is evidently still unsatisfied and prices are steady to firm at the close with the following business booked:—Beaver Seven Lines, 40 yar's at Tls. 4.50, P.M.C. at Tls. 3.80, Beaver Seven Lines*30 yards at Tls. 3.50 and Six Lines at Tls. 3.25. There was little change at the auctions.

WHITE SHIRTINGS.—Pure finish cloths have been in good request for the Korean market during the interval, and the River Ports have also been inquiring to a moderate extent. Prices have advanced about 5 candareens all round and sales have been made public is Gold Nine Pony at Tls. 6.10, Red Dog at Tls. 5.70, Red Sun at Tls. 5.70, Nine Stocks at Tls. 5.30, Mountain Flower No. 1 at Tls. 5.15, International at Tls. 5.05/10, Three Men at Tls. 4.85, Woman and Flower at Tls. 4.60 and Flower at Tls. 4.25. Better prices were paid in most cases at the auctions.

DRILLS.—Prices for American goods show practically no change from those mentioned last week, but about 14,000 pieces have changed hands as follows: P. M. C. at Tls. 4.85, Stark Lion at Tls. 4.70, Massachusetts MM at Tls. 4.65, Booth Cock at Tls. 4.50, Butterfly at Tls. 4.45, Enoree B B at Tls. 4.40, Buffalo Head at Tls. 4.40 Small Cats Head at Tls. 4.40, and Phoenix at Tls. 4.00. In English Drills sales are returned in Beaver at Tls. 4.00, Seabird at Tls. 3.95 and Dragon and Snake at Tls. 3.95.

SHEETINGS.—There is not yet sufficient demand about to influence prices to any extent and the market may be described as quite steady. Resales are returned in Buckshead at Tls. 4.70, Whitney Dog at Tls. 4.40, Doghead at Tls. 4.10, Eagle W. at Tls. 3.90, Piedmont K. (4,000 pieces) at Tls. 3.90, Large Elephant at Tls. 3.90, Two Pony at Tls. 3.85 and Two Fish at Tls. 3.80.

DYED AND FANCY COTTONS.—We are unable to report any change in the state of our market. Sales are difficult to effect and stocks still too heavy to permit of any material improvement in values, no private business has been reported. Fast Black Cotton Lastings were irregular as usual at auction, but the majority of chops went for lower rates.

WORSTEDS AND WOOLLENS.—Two private sales of Black Worsted Italians are reported under Cock chop at Tls. 10.25, and Joss at Tls. 10.00. All Woollens were firm at the auctions.

COTTON.—The Local staple remains steady but quiet, closing quotations being Tungchow Tls. 20.00, Steam Ginned Tls. 19.00, Four Chop Tls. 18.80, Shanghai Ordinary Tls. 18.60 and Ningpo Tls. 17.10. American Middling Cotton on the Liverpool market after having declined to 6.09d. has recovered to 6.16d. Egyptian has dropped to 8½d. and Indian to 3½ per lb.

YARN.—The market for all Spinnings is easy with no demand to speak of.

SILK.

From Mr. F. C. HEPFER's report, dated Shanghai, February 19, 1908.

There is no change to report in the Home Markets.

RAW SILK.—Since my last circular dated January 27, no business has been done in white silk.

YELLOW SILKS.—During the past week, Indian Buyers have operated freely in Mienchews, Kopuns and Mienyangs, about 450/500 bales being settled. Mienyangs are getting scarce, and Holders demand high prices.

TUSSAH FILATURES.—Very little doing.

QUOTATIONS IN TAEELS PER PICUL.

SKINS.—Montsan Gold Phoenix 1 & 2	...	397½/367½
YELLOW SILKS.—Mienyang S.T. 1 & 2	...	402½/382½
C.C.Y. 1	...	370
" W.K. 1	...	372½
Mienchew	...	390/382½
Kopun	...	345/340
Wooyung Gold Moon 4	...	330
" inferior	...	307½

HIDES, SKINS, ETC.

Statistics from the HANKOW GENERAL CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE Circular, February 14, 1908.

EXPORTS.

The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	per picul.
Cowhides, Best selected	Tls. 32.00
" Seconds	" 28.00
Buffalo hides, Best selected	} 22.50
" " 10/35-lb.	
" " 35/60-lb.	
Goatskins, Untanned, chiefly white colour, average 2-lb., 50% short, 30% med. & 20% long hair...	" 40.00
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lb. each	" —
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 10.20
" " Sinshan and/or Chayu	" —
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" 9.20
Jute	" —
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 11.00
" " Pingchow and/or Macheng	" —
" " Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyn	" 12.80
Animal Tallow	" 10.60
Gallnuts, Usual shape	" 15.50
" Plum	" 17.50
Tobacco, Tinchow	" —
" Woungkong	" —

Black Bristles.

Rings	2"	3"	3 1/2"	3 3/4"	4"	4 1/4"	4 3/8"	5"	5 1/2"	5 3/4"	6"				
	10	10	10	10	10	6	6	6	3	1	1	1	1	1	
	$\frac{2}{10} + \frac{3}{10} + \frac{3\frac{1}{2}}{10} + \frac{3\frac{3}{4}}{10} + \frac{4}{10} + \frac{4\frac{1}{4}}{6} + \frac{4\frac{3}{8}}{6} + \frac{5}{6} + \frac{5\frac{1}{2}}{3} + \frac{5\frac{3}{4}}{1} + \frac{6}{1} = 100\%$												..	—	
Feathers, grey and/or white	Duck												...	..	—
" " " "	Wild Duck												...	..	—
Turmeric	...												...	..	—
Sesamum Seed, White	...												...	..	5.70
" " Yellow	...												...	..	
" " Red	...												...	..	
" " Black	...												...	..	8.50
Sesamum Seed Oil	...												...	..	
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	...												...	..	—
Wood Oil	...												...	..	—
Tea Oil	...												...	..	—

I. M. CUSTOMS RETURNS OF SHIPMENTS.

	Per last Circular	2 wks. ending Sat., Feb. 8, 1908.	January 1 to February 8, 1908.
Cowhides	—	4,565	—
Buffalo hides	—	2,006	—
Goatskins (untanned) ..	—	92,539	—
Animal tallow	—	1,847	—
Vegetable tallow	—	8,954	—
Nutgalls	—	2,185	—
Bristles.....	—	286	—
Sesamum seed	—	158,041	—
Wood Oil.....	—	14,455	—
Cotton (pressed bales)	...	...	17,596 piculs
" (Native ")	...	...	1,892 "

KEROSENE.

QUOTATIONS.—Ex Godown—

American	"Devoes" in cases...Tls.	2.25	Net.
"	"Eagle" in tins ... "	1.97	Less 2%
"	" in bulk ... "	1.67	
Borneo	"Cross" in tins ... "	1.87	"
"	" in bulk ... "	1.57	"
Russian	"Anchor" in cases... "	—	"
"	"Horse" in cases... "	—	"
Sumatra	bulk in tins	1.97	"
"	in bulk..... "	1.67	"

IMPORTS

During the week ending Saturday, February 10, 1908, inclusive, as per Custom House returns, are—

Devoes.....	nil	Gallons.
Borneo.....	nil	"
Russian	nil	"
Sumatra	nil	"
Total.....	nil	"

FREIGHTS :—

Per Conference Steamers to London & Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus River Freight.

Per Conference Steamers to Genoa, Marseilles or Havre;
45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus River Freight.

Per Conference Steamers to New York, via Suez, General
Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus River Freight.

Per Conference Steamers to New York, via Suez, Tea
37/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus River Freight.

To New York :

Overland	{	per carload.....Tea, G\$1½ cts. per lb. gross	}	plus River Freight
		less than carload ,, 1½ ,, ,		

Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 @ 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

(Opening Rates.)

FLUCTUATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ON LONDON—					
Bank Rate—	MAX.	DATE.	MIN.	DATE.	
Tel. Transfer ...	2/7	Feb. 14	2/6½	Feb. 20	
Demand	2/7½	" 14	2/6½	" 20	
Bank Drafts, 4 m/s	2/7½	" 14	2/6½	" 20	
Credits, 4 m/s ...	2/7½	" 14	2/7½	" 20	
" 6 m/s	2/8	" 14	2/7½	" 20	
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	2/7½	" 14	2/7½	" 20	
" 6 m/s.	2/8½	" 14	2/7½	" 20	
ON NEW YORK—					
Demand	63	" 14	61½	" 20	
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	65½	" 14	64½	" 20	
ON PARIS—					
Demand, Fcs. ...	3.26	" 14	3.21	" 20	
Docy. 4 m/s Fcs...	3. 3½	" 14	3.28½	" 20	
" 6 m/s Fcs...	3.35½	" 14	3.30	" 20	
GERMANY—					
Tel. Transfers ...	2.63½	" 14	2.60	" 17	
Demand	2.64	" 14	2.61	" 17	
Bank Drafts, 4 m/s	2.67	" 14	2.64	" 17	
Credits, 4 m/s ...	2.71½	" 14	2.69	" 17	
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	2.72½	" 14	2.70	" 17	
" 6 m/s.	2.75½	" 14	2.73	" 17	
ON CALCUTTA,					
Transfers	194½	" 14	191½	" 20	
ON BOMBAY,					
Transfer	194½	" 14	191½	" 20	
ON HONGKONG—					
Bank Demand ...	75	" ...	75	" 20	
ON YOKOHAMA—					
Bank Demand ...	80½	" 20	79	" 14	
SOVEREIGNS—Bank's	{ Tls. 7.71	" 20	Tls. 7.58	" 14	
buying rate...	{ \$ 10.53	" 20	\$ 10.29	" 14	
MEXICAN DOLLARS...					
SHANGHAI GOLD	Tls. 73.7	" 14	Tls. 73.2	" 20	
BARS, 98 touch...	" 384	" 18	" 375½	" 14	
BAR SILVER	" 111,10	" ...	" 111,10	" ...	
COPPER CASH	1540 p. TL	" 20	1525 p. TL	" 14	
NATIVE INTEREST ...	8 Cands.	" 20	4 Cands.	" 14	

SHANGHAI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS (SINCE REPORT PER LAST ISSUE.)

Date	Name.	Tons	Captain.	Flag.	From.	Cargo.	Consignees.
Feb 13	Lita	1727	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	General	R Ackermann & Co
... 13	Kiangteen	1435	Paramore	Chi	Ningpo	do	C M S N Co
... 13	Loongwo	2386	Selby	Br	Hankow	do	J M & Co Ld
... 13	Poyang	1892	Carnaghan	Br	Hankow	do	B & Swire
... 13	Koonshing	1333	Andersen	Br	Tsingtao	do	J. M. & Co Ld
... 13	Telemachus	4822	Goodwin	Br	Japan	do	B & Swire
... 13	Ichang	1228	Jones	Br	Swatow	do	B & Swire
... 13	Teal	180	Godfrey	Br	Hankow	do	B & Swire
... 13	Daiya Maru	1735	Aikawa	Jap	Japan	Coal	Mitsui Bishi Co
... 13	Tachi Maru	1287	Narita	Jap	Hankow	General	N Kisen Kaisha
... 13	Kiangfoo	1468	Carlson	Chi	Hankow	do	C M S N Co
... 14	Pekin	2032	Sparke	Br	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 14	Tatung	1892	Gibbs	Br	Hankow	do	B & Swire
... 14	Kaiping	1605	Macfarlane	Br	Chinwangtao	Coal, etc.	Chi Eng & M Co
... 14	Quiros			Am	Hankow		
... 14	Knivsberg	646	Henk	Ger	Hankow		Moller Brothers
... 14	S 90			Ger	Cruise		
... 14	Austria	4879	Gellhuber	Aus	Japan	General	S Wieler & Co
... 14	Ithaka	1446	Calender	Ger	Hankow	do	A Karberg & Co
... 15	Lita	1728	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 15	Kiangteen	1453	Paramore	Chi	Ningpo	do	C M S N Co
... 15	Liangchow	1215	Harder	Br	Swatow	do	B & Swire
... 15	Tientsin	227	Monkman	Br	Swatow	do	B & Swire
... 15	Meilee	1151	Engelhardt	Ger	Hankow	do	Melchers & Co
... 15	Juho Maru	999	Kazawa	Jap	Japan	Coal	Mitsui Bishi Co
... 15	Yohyang Maru	2225	Yebina	Jap	Hankow	General	N Kisen Kaisha
... 15	Kiangshin	2101	Lindstrom	Chi	Hankow	do	C M S N Co
... 15	Suilee Maru	940	Yasaki	Jap	Hankow	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 15	Shuntien	1081	Bennett	Br	W'wei, Chefoo	do	B & Swire
... 15	Glenloch	2998	Stallard	Br	London	do	McG Bros. & Gow
... 15	Sopernik	1728	Melville	Rus	Vladivostok	do	East-Asiatic Co
... 15	Goeben	5100	Wilnem	Ger	Hongkong, &c.	Mails, etc	Melchers & Co
... 15	Emp of Japan	3039	Pybus	Br	Hongkong	General	Melchers & Co
... 15	Chiyuen	1211	Stewart	Chi	Hongkong	do	C M S N Co
... 16	Pekin	2032	Sparke	Br	Ningpo	do	B & Swire
... 16	Salahalji	1235	Raju	Du	Balikpapan	General	A Petroleum Co
... 16	Tuckwo	3355	Smith	Br	Hankow	do	J M & Co Ld
... 16	Lima	1728	Seite	Fr	Hankow	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 16	Tachang Maru	1681	Yebina	Jap	Hankow	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 16	Changon	1289	Harvey	Br	Hankow	do	Geddes & Co
... 16	Tanoura Maru	1140	Mori	Chi	Japan	Coal	Mitsui Bishi Co
... 16	Chinhua	1348	Harris	Jap	Japan	General	B & Swire
... 16	Kamor	949	Falk-Muns	Nor	Japan	Coal & S.	M B Kaisha
... 16	Lougeor	4444	Mouton	Fr	Autwerp	General	M Maritimes
... 16	Tungshing	1173	Stalker	Br	Hongkong	do	J M & Co Ld
... 16	Kwangping	1243	Chapman	Br	Chinwangtao	C. and G.	Ch. Eng. & M Co
... 16	Pakhoi	1275	French	Br	Swatow	General	B & Swire
... 16	Antenor	3563	Hazeland	Br	Japan	do	B & Swire
... 16	Patroclus	3548	Bailey	Br	Liverpool etc	do	B & Swire
... 17	Tamsui	919	Lennox	Br	Chefoo	do	B & Swire
... 17	A. v Tirpitz	1199	Trenmann	Ger	Kiaochou	do	Melchers & Co
... 17	Chikugo Maru	1589	Hosdahl	Jap	Yokohama	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 17	Flintshire	2476	Cundy	Br	Japan	do	S Tomes and Co
... 17	Ngankin	1719	Newcomb	Br	Hankow	do	B & Swire
... 17	Meishun	1150	Minning	Ger	Hankow	do	Melchers and Co
... 17	Kwangtah	1536	Lunt	Chi	Hongkong	do	C M S N Co
... 17	Hangchow	1070	Mawley	Br	Amoy	do	B & Swire
... 17	Chuentiao	730	Rutherford	Chi	Cruise	Customs	C M S N Co
... 18	Kiangteen	1453	Paramore	Chi	Ningpo	General	R Ackermann & Co
... 18	Lita	1727	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	J M & Co Ld
... 18	Waishing	1931	Bichard	Br	H'kong & S'tow	do	Standard Oil Co
... 18	Kennebec	3301	Beynon	Br	Japan	General	N Kisen Kaisha
... 18	Siangyang M'u	2225	Scott	Jap	Hankow	do	B & Swire
... 18	Yochow	1306	Northcomb	Br	Ningpo	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 18	Yeboshi Maru	2892	Kon	Jap	Japan	Coal	Moller Brothers
... 18	Fukuyo Maru	1287	Hokubu	Jap	Japan	General	N Yusen Kaisha
... 18	Aki Maru	3995	Yagi	Jap	Japan	do	P M S S Co
... 18	Manchuria	8750	Saunders	Am	Hongkong	do	Thoresen & Co
... 18	Prominent	748	Cristiansen	Nor	Japan	do	C M S N Co
... 18	Kiangkwan	1500	Frigast	Chi	Hankow	General	H-America Line
... 18	Rhenania	4035	Hoff	Ger	Moji	do	B & Swire
... 19	Pekin	2232	Sparke	Br	Ningpo	do	J M & Co Ld
... 19	Suiwo	1931	Sellar	Br	Hankow	do	J M & Co Ld
... 19	Hangsang	1358	Wilde	Br	H'kong v. N'po	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 19	Hakuai Maru	1434	Sekine	Jap	Yokohama	Lumber	Hopkins Tunn & Co
... 19	Valdivia	3198	Reed	Br	Japan	General	Melchers & Co
... 19	Meidah	1150	Bohm	Ger	Hankow	do	C M S N Co
... 19	Hsinyu	1037	Wallace	Chi	Chefoo	P'leum	Standard Oil Co
... 19	Dakotah	2593	Ross	Br	Balikpapan	General	N Kisen Kaisha
... 19	Hualee Maru	669	Imojo	Jap	Hankow	do	Standard Oil Co
... 19	Meian	466	Wuhu	Am	Kiukiang	do	C Eng & M'ing Co
... 19	Hsiping	1267	Budgen	Br	Chinwangtao	do	
... 19	Ilitis	895	Kuesel	Ger	Cruise	General	J M & Co Ld
... 19	Kutsang	3110	Bradley	Br	Hongkong	do	B & Swire
... 19	Shaoching	1307	McIntosh	Br	Hongkong	do	S Wieler & Co
... 19	Vorwaerts	3727	Bednarz	Aus	Hongkong	do	Wallem & Co
... 19	Mira	1097	Erickson	Nor	Japan	do	Ch. E Railway Co
... 19	Port Maria	1499	Williams	Br	Vladivostok	do	Thoresen & Co
... 19	Jason	1135	Nielsen	Nor	Japan	do	M B Kaisha
... 19	Atagosan Maru	1267	Awaki	Jap	Japan	Coal	

The A.-C. Herald and S. C. & C. Gazette.

DEPARTURES (FROM THE ANCHORAGE AND WOOSUNG.)

Date	Name.	Tons	Captain.	Flag.	Destination.	Cargo.	Dispatched by.
Feb 12	China	3188	Friele	Am	S.F'co, v. Japan	General	P M S S Co
... 12	Hsiping	1287	Budgen	Br	T'tsin, C'angtao	do	C Eng & M'ing Co
... 13	Kinling	2411	Sutherland	Br	Hankow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 13	Kiangyung	4151	Milligan	Chi	Hankow & Ports	do	C M S N Co
... 13	Lifong	1727	Lepetit	Fr	H'kow & Ports	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 13	Nightingale	85	Roy	Br			
... 13	Trafalgar	1920	Kuagg	Br	Japan		Standard Oil Co
... 13	Deucalion	4476	Rie'hansen	Br	Japan	Original	B & Swire
... 13	Hohenfels	3438	Probst	Ger	Japan	do	S. Tones & Co
... 13	Meian	468	Barlow	Am	Wuhu	K. Oil	Standard Oil Co
... 13	Atagosan Maru	1288	Awaki	Jap	Japan		M B Kaisha
... 13	Nanyetsu Maru	828	Tominaka	Jap	Japan		Moller Brothers
... 13	Prosper	788	Larsen	Nor	Japan	General	Thorsen & Co
... 13	Chenan	1350	Laver	Br	Japan	do	B & Swire
... 13	Kansu	1039	Speed	Br	Dairen	do	B & Swire
... 13	Fungshun	834	Jamieson	Chi	Ningpo & W'hw	do	C M N S Co
... 13	Shasi	311	Cooke	Br	Hankow	K. Oil	B & Swire
... 13	Lita	1728	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	General	R. Ackermann & Co
... 13	Kiangteen	1453	Paramore	Chi	Ningpo	do	C M S N Co
... 13	Mandjour	1426	Rahdem	Russ			
... 14	Kiangyu	1490	Wade	Chi	Hankow & Ports	General	C M S N Co
... 14	Nanyang Maru	2225	Onishi	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 14	Nubia	3845	Fox	Br	Japan	do	P & O S N Co
... 14	Oceanien	2894	Magnen	Fr	M'sillew. H'kng	Mails, etc	M Maritimes
... 14	Fengtien	1037	Dewar	Br	C'kiang, Wuhu		Butterfield & Swire
... 14	Canton	1130	Anderson	Br	Japan	General	Moller Brothers
... 14	Bingo Maru	3873	Sommer	Jap	M'sillew. H'kng	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 14	Loksang	879	Bowker	Br	Foochow	do	J. M. & Co Ld
... 14	Chingping	1062	Watson	Br	T'tsin, C'iao	do	Chi Eng. & M Co
... 14	Aikawa Maru	1105	Hoshino	Jap	Japan		F'kawa Mining Co
... 14	Pekin	2232	Sparke	Br	Ningpo	do	Butterfield & Swire
... 14	Manju Maru	1030	Yamamoto	Jap	Japan		M B Kaisha
... 14	Mongolia	1628	Heikel	Rus	Vladivostok	General	Ch. E Railway Co
... 15	Loongwo	2386	Selby	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	J M & Co Ld
... 15	Poyang	1892	Carnaghan	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	B & Swire
... 15	Suma Maru	1619	Hirooka	Jap	Japan		M B Kaisha
... 15	Koonshing	1333	Andersen	Br	Kiaochou	do	J M & Co Ld
... 15	Koei Maru	1423	Ishikawa	Jap	Japan	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 15	Meifoo	1321	MacArthur	Chi	H'kong & C'ton	do	C M S N Co
... 15	Liu Hsing	750	Powell	Chi	Cruise		Customs
... 15	Kiangteen	1435	Paramore	Chi	Ningpo	do	C M S N Co
... 15	Lita	1726	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	do	R. Ackermann & Co
... 16	Taichi Maru	1287	Narita	Jap	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 16	Tatung	1882	Gibbs	Br	Hankow & Ports	do	Butterfield & Swire
... 16	Emp of Japan	3039	Fybus	Br	Vancouver	Mails, etc	C P Ry Co
... 16	Kwongwang	1428	Baker	Br	S'w. H'kg, C'ton	General	J M & Co Ld
... 16	Otowa Maru	619	Takemoto	Jap	Japan	do	Moller Brothers
... 16	Shuntien	1081	Bennett	Br	C'hiang, H'kow		Butterfield & Swire
... 16	Hsinchi	1385	Wallace	Chi	Chefoo	do	C M S N Co
... 16	Peiho	417	Flottwell	Ger	Kiaochou		Melchers and Co
... 16	Saxonia	2782	Habel	Ger	Europe v H'kng	do	H-America Line
... 17	Kiangfoo	1488	Carlson	Chi	H'kow and Ports	General	C M S N Co
... 17	Sullee Maru	940	Yasaki	Jap	Hankow & Ports		N Kisen Kaisha
... 17	Goeben	5150	Wilhem	Ger	Japan	do	Melchers & Co
... 17	Daiya Maru	1732	Mori	Jap	Japan		M B Kaisha
... 17	Austria	4879	Gillhuber	Aus	Europe v H'kng	do	S Wieler & Co
... 17	Asosan Maru	1217	Tsuji	Jap	Japan		M B Kaisha
... 17	Meilee	1151	Engelhard	Ger	H'kow and Ports	do	Melchers & Co
... 17	Hazel Dollar	2804	Bruce	Br	S'F'cisco v J'pan	do	R Dollar & Co
... 17	Tungshing	1173	Stalker	Br	C'kiang, Wuhu		J M & Co Ld
... 17	Liangchow	1215	Harder	Br	C'kiang, Wuhu		B and Swire
... 17	Juho Maru	988	Kosawa	Jap	Japan		M B Kaisha
... 17	Pekin	2232	Sparke	Br	Ningpo	do	Butterfield & Swire
... 17	Salahadji	1235	Riju	Dut	Tarskan		A Petroleum Co
... 17	Kaiping	1405	Macfarlane	Br	T'tsin & C'wtao	General	Ch Eng and M Co
... 18	Kianghsin	2101	Lindstrom	Chi	Hankow & Ports	do	C M S N Co
... 18	Yohyang Maru	2225	Yebina	Jap	Hankow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 18	Limao	1727	Seite	Fr	Hankow & Ports	do	R Ackermann & Co
... 18	Sulimow	1113	Calender	Ger	Hankow & Ports	do	A Karberg & Co
... 18	Telemachus	4302	Goodwin	Br	Liverpool	do	B & Swire
... 18	Tamsui	919	James	Br	Amoy, Swatow	do	B & Swire
... 18	G'morganahire	3639	Norris	Br	Japan	Original	S Tones & Co
... 18	Tatoutze	691	Winlin	Fr	Hankow	P'oleum	J Herolfsen & Co
... 18	Lita	1726	Henry	Fr	Ningpo	General	R Ackermann & Co
... 18	Kiangteen	1435	Paramore	Chi	Ningpo	do	C M S N Co
... 18	Tanoura Maru	1140	Mori	Jap	Japan	Rice	Mitsu Bishi Co
... 18	Cundy	2476	Cundy	Br	Europe v H'kg	Tea	S Tones and Co
... 18	Flinthshire	8750	Saunders	Am	S. F'co v. Japan	Mails, etc	C P Ry Co
... 18	Manchuria	4785	Hide	Br	Europe v H'kg	do	P & O S N Co
... 18	Devanha	999	Mawley	Br	Chinkiang	General	B & Swire
... 19	Tuckwo	2356	Smith	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	J M & Co Ld
... 19	Tachang Maru	1981	Kinoehita	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	N Kisen Kaisha
... 19	Meishun	1151	Minning	Ger	H'kow & Ports	do	Melchers & Co
... 19	Changon	1289	Harvey	Br	H'kow & Ports	do	Geddes & Co
... 19	Chiyeun	2111	Stewart	Chi	H'kong & C'ton	do	C M S N Co
... 19	Yushun	1072	Pratt	Chi	Amoy, Swatow	do	C M S N Co
... 19	Yebooshi Maru	2992	Kon	Jap	Japan	do	N Yusen Kaisha
... 19	Waishing	1170	Richard	Br	C'kiang, Wuhu	S. Bags	J M & Co Ld
... 19	Kwangping	1243	Chapman	Br	T'tsin, C'wgtao	General	C Eng & M'ing Co
... 19	Antenor	3592	Hazeland	Br	Europe v H'kg	do	B & Swire
... 19	Ad. Tirpitz	1199	Treumann	Ger	K., C'fook & T'sin	do	Melchers & Co
... 19	Louqsor	4444	Monton	Fr	Japan	do	M Maritimes
... 19	Indrani	3226	Williams	Br	N. Y'k v. Japan	do	J M & Co Ld
... 19	Pekin	2032	Sparke	Br	Ningpo	do	Butterfield & Swire

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The Municipal Gazette.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS AND THE
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

No. 6.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1908.

MUNICIPAL NOTIFICATION.

No. 1891.

DOGS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the DOG MUZZLING REGULATION will be rigorously enforced, both within the limits of the Settlement and on outlying roads.

Dogs found without muzzles, whether led or at large, will be seized by the Police, and their owners, when identified, will be prosecuted. Dogs wearing ineffective muzzles will be regarded as unmuzzled.

Dog owners who have not yet taken out licences for 1908, are requested to make application for the same at the Tax Office.

By order,

W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

Council Room,
Shanghai, February 15, 1908.

MUNICIPAL NOTIFICATION.

No. 1892.

FOREIGN HOTEL OR TAVERN LICENCES.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Watch Committee will sit on Friday, March 27, 1908, to decide upon the number and locality of foreign hotels and taverns to be licensed during the ensuing year.

Applicants for new licences are required to fill up the usual form, which may be obtained on application to the Tax Office, before March 1.

Thereafter, by public notification, an opportunity will be afforded to ratepayers to protest against or support before the Committee the issue or renewal of any licence.

No fresh licences will be issued during the twelve months ensuing after April 1, 1908, and until the next annual sitting of the Committee.

By order,

W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

Council Room,
Shanghai, February 15, 1908.

MUNICIPAL NOTIFICATION.

No. 1893.

PUBLIC BAND.

THE week day performances of the Band in the Town Hall will cease during the Volunteer Training Season from February 29 to April 4 inclusive.

By order,

W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

Council Room,
Shanghai, February 17, 1908.

MUNICIPAL NOTIFICATION.

No. 1741.

THE following Police Regulation is published for general information and observance:—

16A.—Horses, ponies and other animals when led through the public roads must be led, by the near rein, against the traffic, that is on the right hand side of the road.

By order,

W. E. LEVESON,
Acting Secretary.

Council Room,
Shanghai, September 26, 1905.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, February 12, 1908, at 4.30 p.m., there are present:

Messrs. O. Meuser (*Acting Chairman*)
A. W. Burkill
J. C. Hanson
W. D. Little
A. D. Lowe
J. H. McMichael
The Secretary and
Assistant Secretary.

The summons calling the meeting is taken as read.

The minutes of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Volunteers.

Annual Inspection.—A letter from the General Officer Commanding H. M. Forces in South China is read notifying his willingness to hold the inspection on Saturday, April 4, or, if through unforeseen circumstances unable to do so, to detail a field officer for the purpose.

Police.

Foreign Branch.—The following are appointed third-class constables, being the draft of fourteen recruits engaged through the London Agents, who arrived on February 10:—

M. L. Baillie
W. Champney
P. A. Davidson
J. F. Franklin
H. Fraser
J. W. Johnston
H. J. S. Jones
F. Langford
P. Murray
A. J. Pether
J. Sinclair
W. Smith
A. V. Stewart
J. Straiton

Nine months' leave is granted to Detective-Sergeant Craig to date from March 16.

Nine months' leave is granted to Sergeant Mills to date from May 10.

Mixed Court.

Suggested Boycott of British Trade.—A letter from the Consular Body is read, containing a communication from the Taotai in regard to the recent arrest of Yin Keh-chong in connexion with his responsibility for the issue of a circular advocating the boycott of the bank-notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The Captain-Superintendent of Police in reporting on this case writes:—

"The action taken was guided solely by what I considered to be the extremely serious nature of the offence of which Yin Keh-chong, a Chinese official, was charged and had committed.

"In view of the history of the riot of 1905, and the part played in it by the dissemination of inflammatory and seditious literature, I considered that I should have failed in my duty had I not taken immediate steps to suppress such literature as well as to arrest the author.

"The natural, and, in the light of previous experience, obvious effect of the leaflet was to create unrest in the Settlement, stir up anti-foreign feeling, and, so far as the author had any influence,

to reproduce the situation of 1905, and that which was brought about at the time of the American boycott."

The above view is fully endorsed by the Watch Committee, and that its accuracy was gauged by the Taotai is clear from the terms of his proclamation on the subject posted on January 14, wherein he describes the issue of the leaflet as a wanton disturbance of public trade, and calculated to bring about very grave harm.

The correspondence with reply as decided is ordered for publication :—

Shanghai, January 28, 1908.

SIR,—Herewith I have the honour to forward copy and translation of a letter from the Taotai in regard to the alleged illegal arrest of Yin, the leader of the proposed boycott of British trade, a matter upon which the Consular Body would be pleased to have some explanation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

D. SIFFERT,

Consul-General for Belgium,
and Senior Consul.

D. LANDALE, Esq.,

Chairman, Municipal Council.

Translation of letter from the Taotai to the Senior Consul, dated January 30, 1908.

I have to call your attention to the fact that when arrests are effected in the Settlement, a warrant should be made out by the Mixed Court and sent to the Senior Consul for signature, whereafter, when it has been handed back, the Police may then make the arrest. Such has been the standing procedure. Recently, however, the Police arrested a respectable merchant with official rank, named Yin Keh-chong, and although he printed and issued a circular as to the boycott of Hongkong Bank notes, and therein committed an act subversive of independent commercial intercourse and good relations, his action should nevertheless, in accordance with Article 14 of the Sino-French Treaty have formed the subject of a communication between the Senior Consul and Chinese Authorities in order that they might take steps to withdraw it. In this Article there is no provision as to punishment.

The Police, however, without having petitioned for negotiation by the Consuls with the Chinese Authorities in order to obtain their consent, arrested this merchant with official rank, and imprisoned him as an ordinary convict in the Hongkew Police Station. This action was a grave contravention of and divergence from rules, and was moreover of prejudice to the peace and good order of the Settlement. I must, therefore, inquire from whom the Police in fact received the power to arrest Yin, and must ask you to punish, in accordance with the law, the person concerned in this unsatisfactory affair, as a warning for the future and in evidence of

justice. I therefore address this letter to you and request you to take the matter into consideration and give me a reply, and I trust that you will proceed accordingly.

Council Room,

Shanghai, February 14, 1908.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 28, containing a communication from the Taotai in regard to the arrest of Yin Keh-chong.

The facts contained in this document which relate to the arrest are in the main correct, except in that it is stated that the man was treated as an ordinary convict, whereas under special instructions he was permitted to proceed to the Police Station by himself in his own carriage and lodged in one of the separate rooms provided for defendants in civil suits, where he was subsequently supplied with bedding and food by his friends.

The case was not an ordinary one when the usual procedure would have been followed by the Police as a matter of course, the officer in charge, to whom the community looks for the preservation of good order within Settlement limits, considered that in the light of previous experience the case required immediate action, the Council concurs and fully supports him and trusts the Consular Body will take the same view of the incident.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

OTTO MEUSER,

Acting Chairman.

D. SIFFERT, Esq.,

Consul-General for Belgium,

and Senior Consul.

Woochang Road Jetty.

With reference to the proposal made by the Japanese Consul-General in July 1906 for the removal of this public landing stage westward to a new position at the termination of the Tiendong Road, extended to the river for the purpose, the following letter from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha with reply as directed is ordered for publication :—

Shanghai, January 15, 1908.

DEAR SIR,—Referring to the proposed removal of the public (Municipal) jetty from its present position at end of Woochang Road to the end of the proposed extension of the Tiendong Road, we beg to ask that this new road (the land for which we have offered to surrender from the west side of the land at present forming the pile of the Japanese Consulate) be made of a width not exceeding 22 feet. This is the width of Tiendong Road to north of Whangpoo Road and will, we presume, be sufficient for the special purpose of access to the public jetty, as naturally the Woochang Road will, as heretofore, take the general traffic to and from the North Yangtze Road.

It has been arranged that we are to surrender a strip of land 60 feet wide along the river frontage of the Japanese Consulate site as an extension of North Yangtze road and it appears evident that the west end of this road will provide ample space for unloading cargo for shipment from the public jetty.

In conclusion we would say that our negotiation with the Japanese Government for the purchase of the site referred to has already been concluded under the understanding of surrendering a 22-ft. road on the west side and as an increase to 30-ft. would not only mean a fresh negotiation with them, but an entire alteration of our plan, we would ask you kindly to put our request before the Council.

Should the above request not be complied with, we would deem it a great favour if the Council can see their way to decrease the width of the extension of the North Yangtze Road to 40-ft. instead of 60-ft.

Awaiting the favour of your reply.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

YONEJIRO ITO,

Manager

C. MAYNE, Esq.,

Municipal Engineer.

Council Room,

Shanghai, February 12, 1908.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 15, addressed to the Municipal Engineer, on the subject of the proposed prolongation of the Tiendong and North Yangtze Roads and the removal of the Woochang Road public landing stage from its present position westward to the end of the Tiendong Road extension.

In reply thereto I am directed to state that since this suggestion was first made in July of 1906 the River Conservancy normal line and works in progress have rendered all questions affecting public landing facilities matters for special consideration.

Careful inspection of the foreshore in the neighbourhood in question has disclosed the fact that it will be practically impossible to maintain a serviceable pontoon opposite the Tiendong Road, since all local expert evidence is to the effect that continuous dredging work would be necessary to ensure the depth of water required for the purpose. If this is found to be the case the pontoon in the proposed new position will be constantly out of use during dredging operations, and the serious inconvenience to the public which would result requires no further demonstration.

With this in view the Council is of opinion that no formal or conclusive negotiations with the Japanese Government as to the purchase of Cadastral lot 1005 should be undertaken.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

The MANAGER,
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Road Names.

The following new roads in the Western District, being now in process of acquisition, will receive names:—

Extension No. 10 Tonquin Road
" " 27 Macao "
" " 29 Penang "
" " 30 Singapore "

Tramways.

A mutual understanding is recorded with the Manager of the Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ltd. whereby resigned or dismissed employees of the Company or of the Council will be refused employment by the other except after consultation.

Private Roads.

As a result of recent inquiries as to the policing of semi-private roads and other minor thoroughfares, situated within the Settlement and on the outskirts, a report by the Captain-Superintendent is submitted referring to Markham Park and Ford Lane, and pointing out that the former of these has hitherto been regularly patrolled by night only but that it will in future specifically form part of the day beat. Ford Lane is patrolled hourly night and day.

The meeting adjourns at 5.50 p.m.

The following documents are forwarded for publication with the foregoing minutes:—

Health Department.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

The following have been reported during the week ending Sunday, February 16, 1908.	Deaths among Chinese population of 350,000.	Cases notified among Non-Chinese population of 14,500.
Small-pox.	7	4
Cholera.	0	0
Typhoid Fever.	—	0
Diphtheria.	1	1
Scarlet Fever.	3	0
Tuberculosis.	20	0
Total Deaths from all Causes	160	3

ARTHUR STANLEY,
Health Officer.

Engineer's Report for January.

Works in Progress.—Western Police Depot. Sikh Gurdwara. Boundary walls and Watchman's house, Soldiers' Cemetery. Boundary walls at Goal. New cells, Sinza Police Station. Drying-room, Yangtsepoo Police Station. Beggars Cells, Hongkew Police Station. Offices quarters, transformer station and foundations for boilers, machinery, etc., at Electricity Works.

Garden Bridge and Chekiang Road Bridge Subsidiary Works. Approach road to new Passenger Pontoons. Draining, bricking and metalling Great Western Road between Manila Road and the Chang Pang. Bricking and metalling Great Western Road for a distance of 350 feet east of Yates Road. Mudfilling to Kalgan Road and East Yuhang Road Extension. Bricking to Road No. 69 E. and Road 70 E. Concrete bunding North Soochow Road west of Garden Bridge. Diversion of 2-ft. 3-in. by 1-ft. 6-in. Sewer North Chekiang Road. Extension of 2-ft. 3-in. by 1-ft. 6-in. Sewer Tiendong Road. South Approach to Garden Bridge. South Approach to Chekiang Road Bridge.

Works Finally completed.—Passenger Pontoons. Assembly Shed, Louza Police Station. Entrance gateway and south enclosure wall, West Hongkew Police Station. Laying 2-ft. 3-in. by 1-ft. 6-in. Sewer and metalling along Weihaiwei Road between Mohawk Road

and Chungking Road. Laying 12-in. Sewer, mudfilling, bricking and metalling 12-ft. strip of Mandalay Road for distance of 400-ft. west of Mohawk Road. Kerbing, channelling and concrete paving Szechuen Road between Nanking Road and Jinkee Road. Mudfilling to Weihaiwei Road from Hart Road to Haroon Road. Mudfilling to Boundary Road. Bricking and metalling Cunningham Road. Laying 3-ft. diameter culvert, Lay Road at Rangoon Road. North Approach Garden Bridge.

Garden Bridge.—The paving of the carriageway and footways having been completed, the Bridge was opened to vehicular traffic on the 20th instant. The temporary footbridge, from Astor Road to the Public Gardens, having been in use for a little over six months, has been closed to traffic and will be removed after the China New Year holidays. That portion of the old bridge under the South Span of the new structure has been demolished and the piles drawn. The outer rows of cofferdam piles are being drawn. Granite pylons are being constructed on the wing walls of the abutments and have reached a height of 2-ft. 6-in. above the footways. Kerb and channel has been laid on the south approach.

Chekiang Road Bridge.—The riveting of this bridge was completed on the 14th instant and the whole of the old bridge was removed and the piles withdrawn by the 29th instant. The South Approach is being raised.

Pontoons, Bund Foreshore.—The lighting arrangements of the new Passenger Pontoons have been completed. A carriageway is being constructed to enable vehicles to be driven to the ends of the jetties. The Kiukiang Road Jetty has been extended to bring the pontoon on to the Normal Line. The pontoon which was formerly opposite the Russo-Chinese Bank has been moored to the south end of the Peking Road Pontoon.

Plans Completed.—Stone Pylons, Chekiang Road Bridge. Ornamental lamp brackets for Skew Bridge. South Approach Chekiang Road Bridge. 1-ft. 6-in. by 1 ft. 0-in. concrete sewer, North Szechuen Road Extension.

Public Lighting.—The lighting arrangements for the Garden Bridge and Approaches, and also for the new Passenger Pontoons have been completed. Incandescent gas lamps have been erected along Chengtu Road.

Tramways.—The track is being laid along Boundary Road and along North Soochow Road between the Garden Bridge and Chapoo Road Bridge.

Works Completed on Road Widening and Extensions.—Works have been completed on Great Western Road, Yates Road, Nanyang Road, Weihaiwei Road, Mandalay Road, Ferry Road, Gordon Road, Jessfield Road, Szechuen Road, Peking Road, Fochow Road, Chefoo Road, Canton Road, Shantung Road, Rangoon Road, Kalgan Road, Dixwell Road, Cunningham Road, North Chekiang Road, North Szechuen Road Extension, Boundary Road, as shown by the following table:—

Heading.	Unit.	Districts.				Total.
		W.	C.	N.	E.	
<i>Drainage.</i>						
Tidal ditches cleaned	ft. run			1720		1720
3'0" Culverts laid	"				105	105
2'3" x 1'6" Sewers laid	"				450	450
12" Sewers laid	"				82	82
9" Sewers laid	"			167		167
6" Drains laid	"	108		37	170	315
Street gullies laid	Nos.	7	4	2		13
Street gullies renewed	"		4	2		6
Brick manholes constructed ...	"	1		1		2
Retaining walls constructed ...	"	3				3
<i>Roads.</i>						
Bricking.....	ft. run	1112		50		1162
Metalling	ft. sup.	7834		500		8334
Kerb & Channel laid	ft. run	8	282	216		506
Channel	"			18		18
Chippaved margins laid ...	"		461			461
Chippaved carriageway laid ...	"	496	315		46	361
Rolling and sanding	"					496
<i>Foot Pavements.</i>						
Concrete paving laid	ft. run		506			506
Chippaved footways laid.....	"		45			45
Macadam footways laid	"	1245				1245
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>						
M. C. R. Stones fixed	Nos.	121				121
Foochow pole railing erected ...	ft.	24				24
Public gas lamps erected	Nos.	1				1

Works Completed on Existing Roads.—The following is a tabulated statement of the different works completed during the month :—

Heading.	Unit.	Districts.				Total.
		W.	C.	N.	E.	
<i>Drainage.</i>						
Tidal creeks cleaned	ft. run	11380			20840	32220
Sewers cleaned	"	—			2075	2075
Tidal ditches cleaned	"	11263				11263
2'3" × 1'6" Sewers laid	"	410				410
12" Sewers laid	"	18				18
9" Sewers laid	"	52				52
6" Drains laid	"	93				93
Street gullies laid	Nos.	4				4
Brick manholes constructed ...	"	9				9
Retaining wall constructed.....	"	1				1
<i>Roads.</i>						
Bricking.....	ft. run	425	27110			425
Metalling.....	ft. sup.	9775		407	44575	81460
Kerb & Channel laid	ft. run					407
Kerb & Channel relaid	"			407	120	120
Chippaved margins laid	"			343		407
Chippaved carriageways reprd...	"	979		140		1322
Rolling and sanding	"	2300	3333	1999	495	2935
Macadam roads repaired.....	"	4573			938	10843
Bricked road repaired.....	"				330	330
<i>Foot Pavements.</i>						
Concrete paving repaired	ft. run	62				62
Tar paving repaired	"	92		136		92
Chippaved footways repaired ...	"					136
Macadam footways laid	"	346				346
Macadam footways repaired ...	"	4496				4496
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>						
Foochow railing poles erected...	ft. run				96	96
Fire hydrants erected.....	Nos.				5	5
Public Gas lamps erected	"	2	9			2
Public Electric lamps erected...	"	4			4	17
Telephone poles erected	"	7				7
Gas, Water and other trenches opened	ft. run	368	2294	1070	506	4238

Cleansing.
Sixty-one cartloads of garbage, 3,518 cartloads of road detritus and 2,479 cartloads of gully deposit were collected during the month.

Quarry.
4,298 tons of road materials have been received during the month from the Quarry.

Concrete-ware manufactory.
The following concreteware has been made at the Hongkew Dépôt during the month :—

Machine made ... 3,280 pieces.
Hand made 1,477 "
Total... 4,757 "

Creeks and River.

Mud has been removed as follows :—
Defence Creek 256 tons.

New Buildings.

Plans have been approved for the erection of 243 buildings made up as follows :—

Western District 130
Central " 33
Northern " 9
Eastern " 71

Total... 243

The following table shows lengths of drains of various sizes laid on private property by the Department during the month :—

Total	E.	N.	C.	W.	Unit.	Heading.
40	510	1,388	524	79	ft. run	12" Pipe Drain
40	424	72	13	16	"	9" Pipe Drain
40	424	72	13	16	"	6" Pipe Drain
40	424	72	13	16	"	4" Pipe Drain
40	424	72	13	16	Nos.	Yard Gullies
40	424	72	13	16	"	Manholes
40	424	72	13	16	"	Main drain connexions ..

Survey Work.

Official measurements of new land lots attended during the month. 69
Cadastral certificates issued 37
Consular lots surveyed 19
Surveys made in connexion with Road Widening and/or Extensions 48
Lots examined to ascertain whether they included roads or waterways which are or may in future be of use to the public... 66
Consular lots examined as to condition of boundary stones... 42
M.C.R. Stones have been erected as follows :—

Western District..... 121 stones.
Eastern " 5 "
Total... 126 "

Miscellaneous.

The average number of labourers employed during the month exclusive of contract work has been 1,967 as against 2,473 during January, 1907.

CHARLES MAYNE,
Engineer & Surveyor.